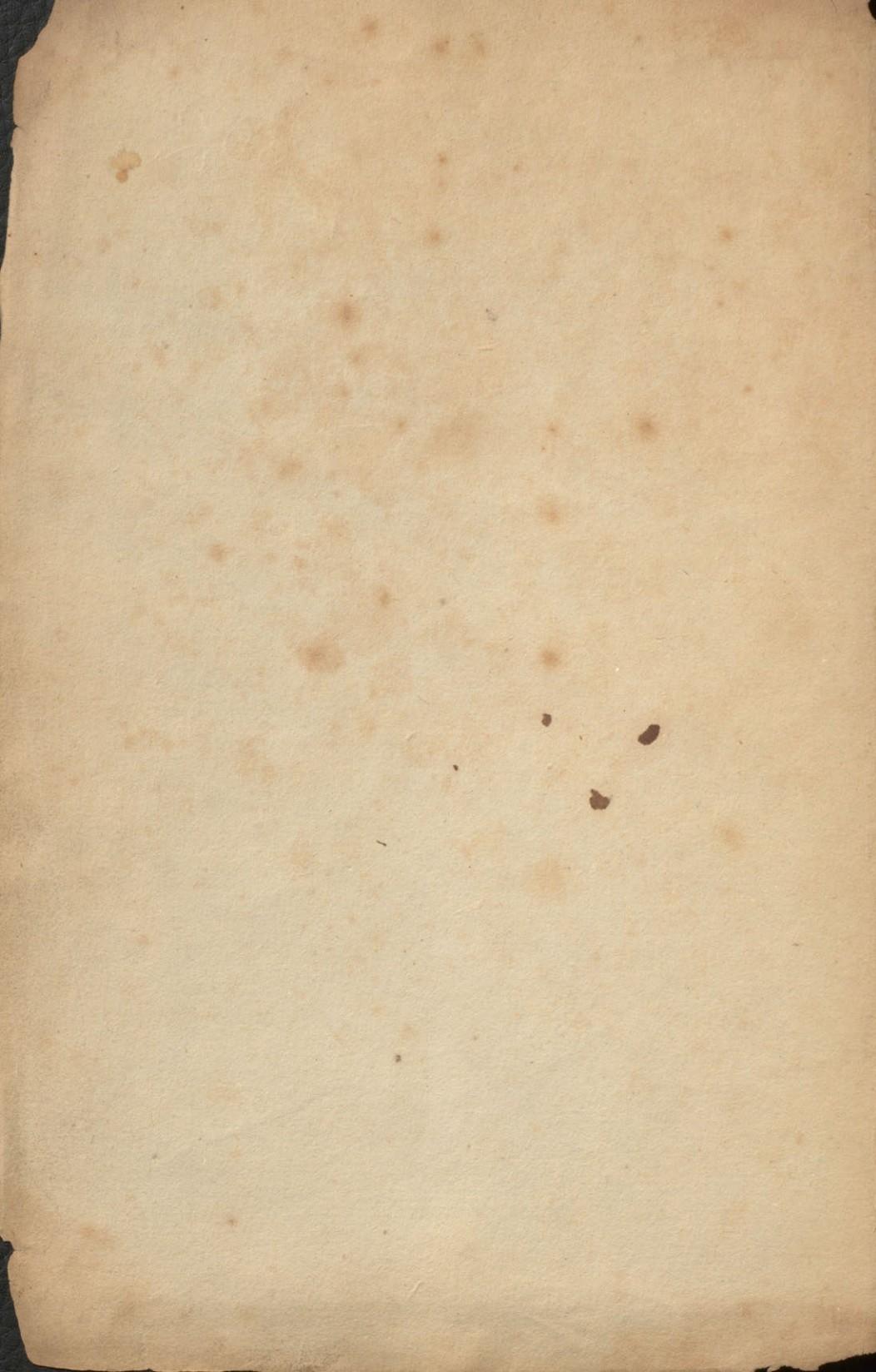


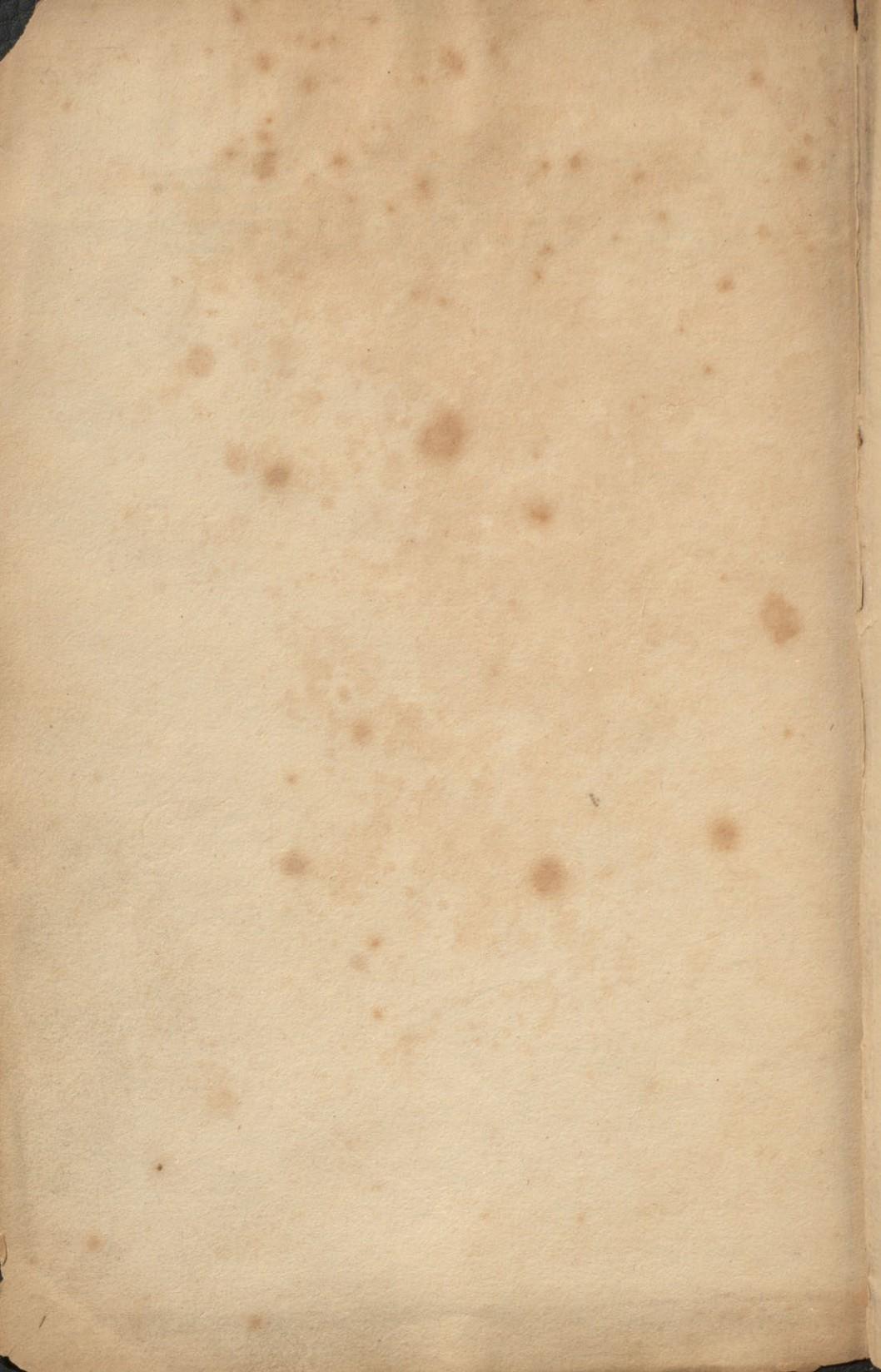
George Colman the Elder

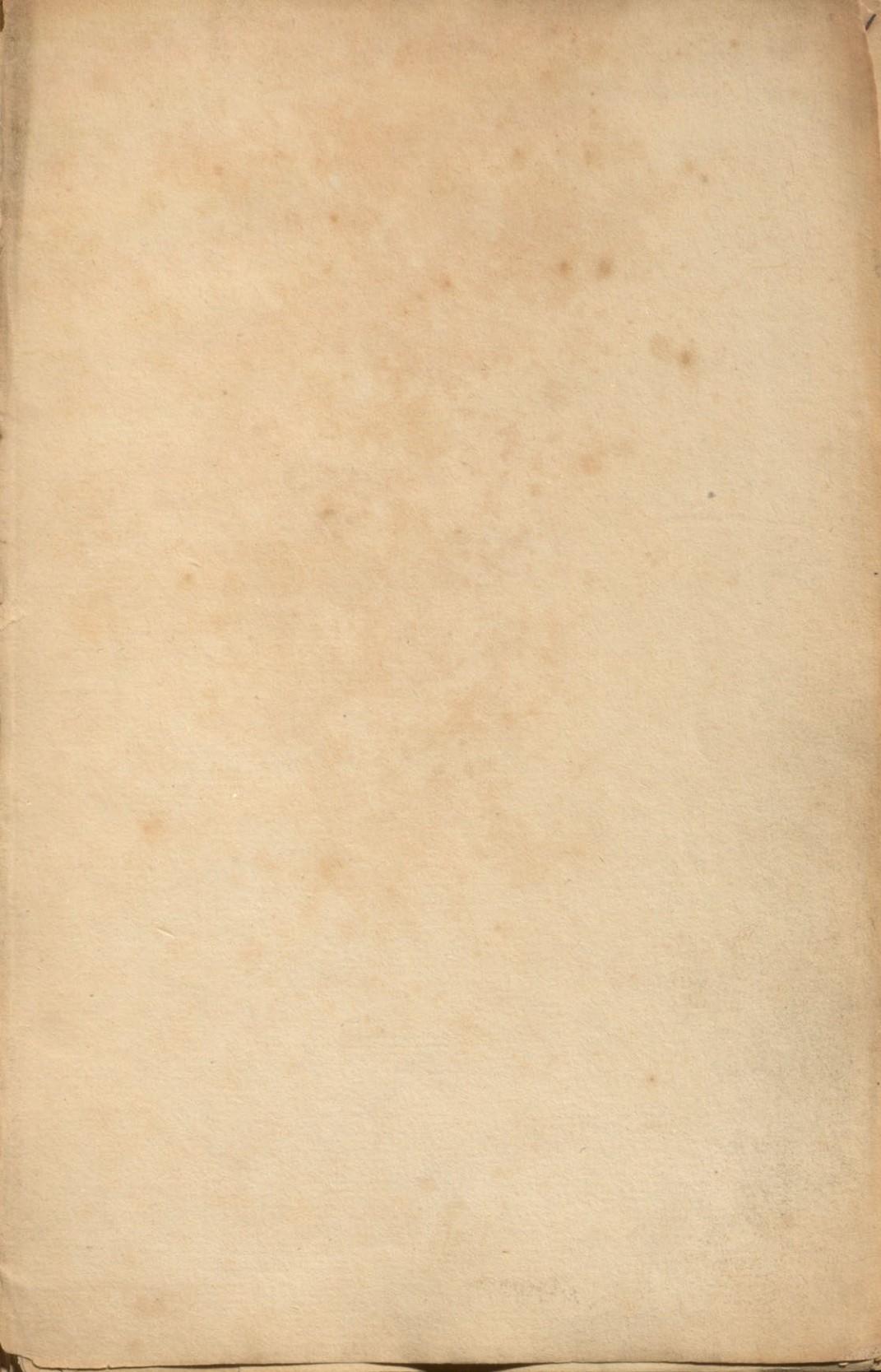


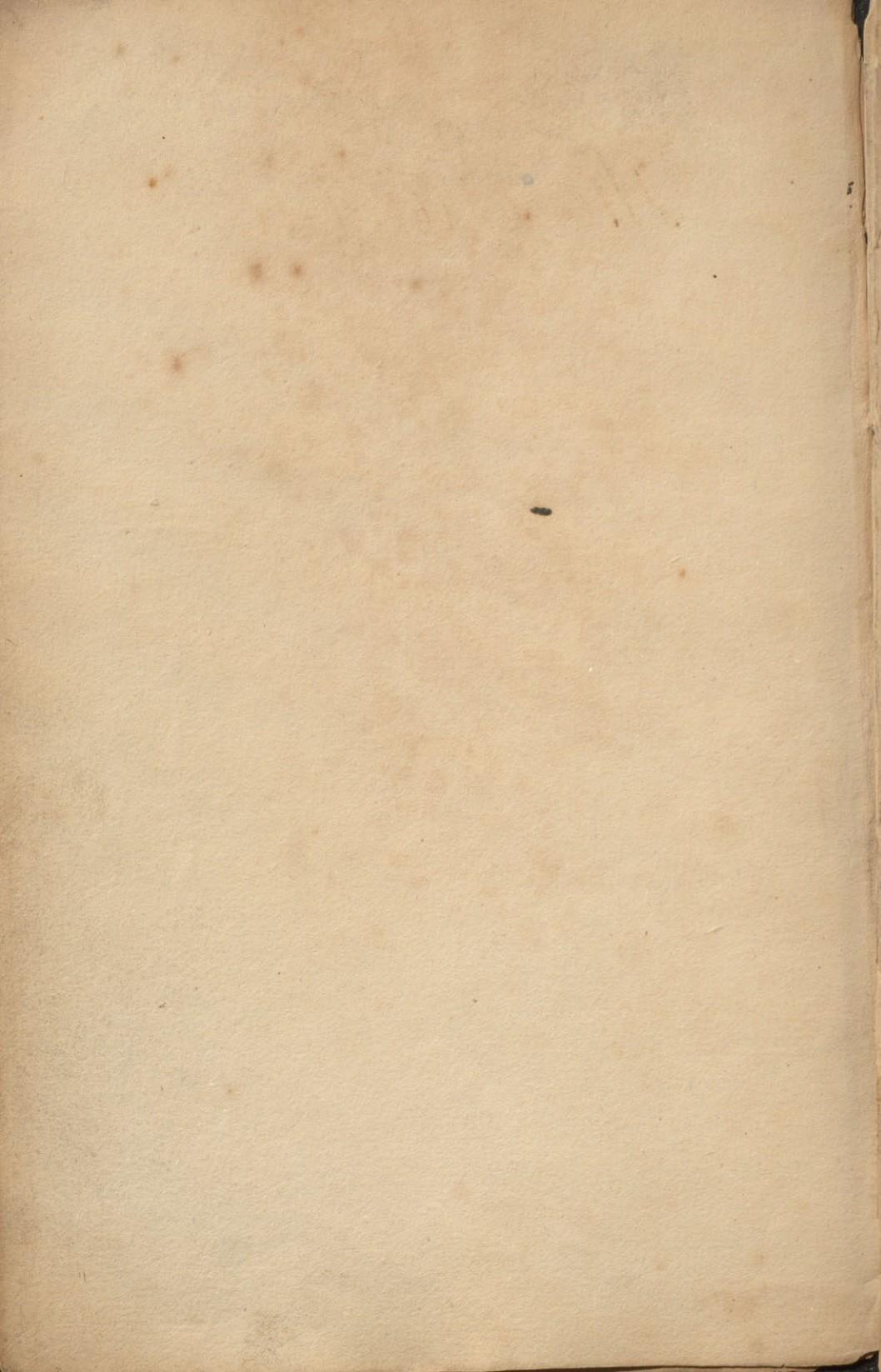
M 135 Bd 129
IV, 41. Colman.

PLAY.—[COLMAN (George)] THE SUICIDE: A COMEDY, in four acts, with prologue and epilogue, and list of Dramatis Personæ, 123 pages, clearly written, 8vo, old half calf, *wants front cover*, £4 4s

THIS COMEDY BY GEORGE COLMAN WAS NEVER PRINTED. It was produced at the Haymarket in 1778. The present manuscript was a prompter's copy, having all the stage directions. Palmer, Aickin, Bannister, Mrs. Webb and Mrs. Lloyd were in the cast.





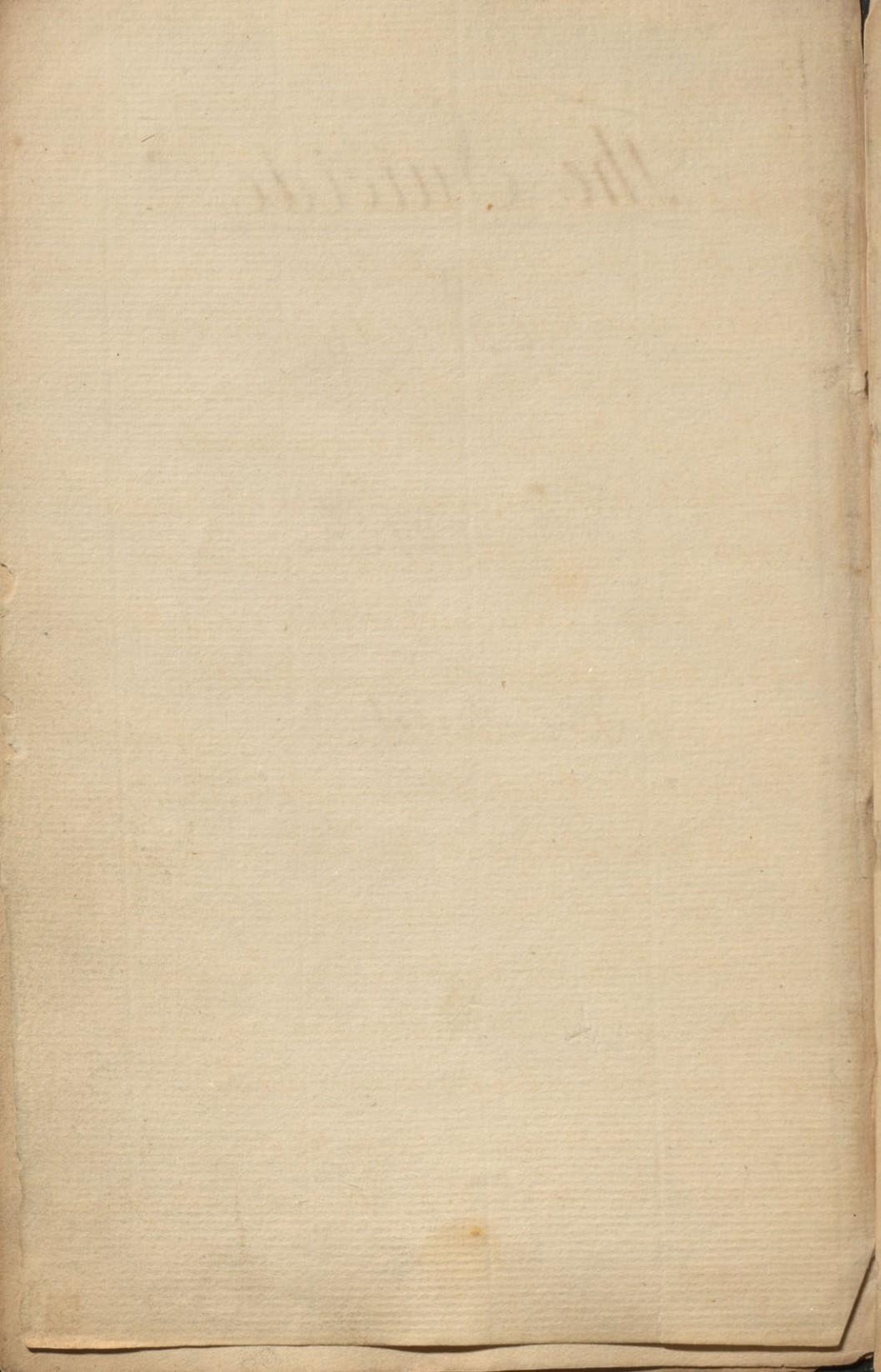


The Suicide

Comedy.

Theatre Royal.

Hay Market.



Prologue.

'Tis now the reigning taste, with Belle and Beau.
Their Art and Skile in Coachmanship to shew
Nobles contend, who throws a Whip the best
From Head to Foot, like Hackney Coachmen dress'd
Duchess and Peeres too discard their fear
Ponies in front, my Lady in the rear
A Female Pheaton all danger mocks
Half Coat - half Petticoat, She mounts the box
Wrapt in a dusty Whirlwind scours the plains
And Cutting - Jehu! - whistling, holds the reins
Happy, thrice happy Britain is thy State
When each Sex drives, at such a furious rate
The modish Artist, play wright or Coach maker
In Grub street Starv'd, or thriving in Long Acre
To suit the Times and tally with the mode
Must travel in the beaten Turnpike road
Wherefore our Crane neck'd Manager to day
Upon four Acts, attempts to run his Play
A fifth he fears woud deem the Bards reproach
A meer fifth wheel, that woud but stop the Coach

With two Act pieces what Machines agree }
Buggies - Tim-whiskies, or Squeez'd Vis a Vis }
Where two sit Face to Face, and knee to knee. }
What is a piece in one short act comprest
A Wheel barrow - or Sulky at the best
A Scale so small the bard wou'd suffer for't
You'd say his Farce was like himself - too short.
Yet anxious with your Smiles, his work to Crown
In many a Varied Shape he courts the Ton
Sometimes he drives - if brother bards implore
Sometimes he in a Prologue, trots before
Or in an Epilogue gets up behind
Happy in all, so you appear but kind
His Vehicle to day may none reproach
Nor take it for a Hearse or Mourning Coach
Tis true, a gloomy outside he has wrought
Than rather threatens than doth promise ought
Yet from black funeral like his brother bay
A nuptial Banquet he intends to raise
We do but jest - poison in jest - no more
And thus one Mercer to the World restore
But if a well tim'd Jest shou'd chance to save
One Mercer from Perdition and the Grave

Al Ludgate Hill be judge if twere not hard
To lo dese shoud you bring in the Bard.

Dramatis Personæ.

Tobine	M ^r Palmer
Tabby.	Aickin
D ^r Truby	Blissett
Catchpenny.	Baddeley
Ranters.	Bannister
Bounce	Webb.
Squib.	R. Palmer
Wingrave.	Watton
Juggins	Massey
Bolus	
Waiters, Watchmen Servants &c.	
John.	
Robin.	
Anthony.	
Tom.	
Mrs Grogram.	Mrs Webb.
Nancy.	M ^r Lloyd
Maid.	Miss Hale.

Mrs Grogram to be written

(1) The Suicide Act 1st { Table. 2 Chairs
Watchman } 2 Candles .. on
John
Peggy.
Mrs. Griswold } Scene New Chamber.

(2) John } Nancy } A Man & Maid sitting on each Side of a Table
 fast asleep.

Watchman (^{PS} without) Standard
 Past five o'clock! — five o'clock, — and a cloudy —
 Morning. — Past five — o'clock. fa Violent Rapping at
PS door.
 A Cloudy Morning. (Rap. again.)

Maid (waking)

Ma'am! Sir! Yes! coming (Rap again) bless me,
 here's Somebody at the Door, I'll go and let them in.

Takes the Candle & Going - Stops

But why shou'd I go, and that Fellow sitting asleep!
 It may be Thieves for ought I know, and a Man
 is the fittest to deal with them — Here you John. —
 fast as a Church — Dye hear John? The Fellows
 dead I think. (Shakes him)

John (waking)

What! what! ha Peggy! Give me a Kiss Love!
Maid.

Pshaw! foolatum! have done with your nonsense
 and go to the Door
John.

Go, to the Door! Go to Bed, I say. (pulling her)
Maid.

I won't be haul'd (Rap again) there! there! d'ye hear?
John.

I neither hear, nor see any thing but you my Love (rap)
Maid. (breaking from him)

Why does not the Fellow go? They'll beat the Door
 down.—It's my Young Master I suppose.
John.

Well, let him beat the door down, or turn the House
 out of the Windows — just as he pleases. Any change
 must be for the better, I am sure my old Master
 Tabby is so fond of early Hours, and Young Squire
 Tobine is so given to late Ones there's no regularity
 in this Family. A poor Servant has no comfort
 between them, and if it was not for my pretty Peggy here,

Maid.

Be quiet then! - We shall have the whole House in an uproar (Rap again) See there - here's Madam Grogram, as sure as I'm alive.

Enter Mrs Grogram. O P

Mrs Grog.

Why John! why Peggy! - arn't you ashame'd husey to have that idle Fellow pulling and slopping you about in that fashion.

Maid.

I'm sure, Ma'am I was only pressing him to go to the Door.

John.

Indeed Ma'am, I was only just —

Mrs Grog.

Go to the door - Will you let your Master wait all day for you?

John.

We have been waiting all night for him Madam.

Mrs Grog.

No more words, but go to the Door man. (John goes.)
(and returns with Nancy in Mans Cloaths.)

John.

M^r. Rattle, Ma'am.

Mrs Grog.

Oh is it you M^r. Rattle? I have something to say to you — Go both of you and wait in the next Room a little — d'ye hear. —

John.

Yes, Ma'am — Umph! Umph — Come along Peggy. umph! — umph! — Exit with Peggy OP

Manet Mrs Grogram & Nancy.

Mrs Grog.

Well, Sir, — Or well, Madam! for I hardly know what to call you, or, what to say to you — Is your Wild goose Chase almost over yet?

Nancy.

We are in full view, and full cry at this Moment Madam.

Mrs Grog.

You are a keen Sportsman, truly Miss.

Nancy.

And why not my dear Madam? How many of my young Female Acquaintance in the Country, fly

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over Hedges, and Ditches. Leap five-bar Gates,
Scramble up Hile, and down; from Fallow to
Greensward in pursuit of a Hare, or, a Fox,
A Man is my Object, the Game is nearly run
down, and like other Ladies in the Field, I hope
to save it from the Dogs instead of being in
at the Death.

Mrs Grog.

As to saving him his Fortune at least - there are
Scarce any hopes of it. And as to yourself,
tho' our good friend Dr Truby who attended
you to the very brink of the Grave, as we thought
assur'd me there was no other way of saving your
Life

Nancy.

Nay, don't fly off, now we're in the very heart of
the business Madam.

Mrs Grog.

Your heart has been almost broken in the course
of it, Nancy.— And yet if the Doctor had not made
himself a party in this mad project, a poor weak

Woman

8
woman, or foolish fond Godmother as I am,
and he always calls me — I should never
have winked at it, much less have consented
to join it, I assure you Nancy.

Nancy.

The kindness of your Motive my dear Madam
was evident, and be assur'd it will answer
you have restor'd my Health and Spirits already.
you see, and whenever I resume the Petticoat;
and become Nancy Lovell again, I do not
doubt of your rejoicing at the happy turn of
my Adventures in the Character of Dick Rattle.

Mrs Grog.

I see very little prospect of it at present, Dick,
Nancy.

Nancy.

The Prospect will clear: Do but indulge me in
this frolic. — It is the last request, I shall urge
Madam.

Mrs Grog.

Nay, I never had any Objection to a Frolick
If any good was like to have come of it, nor

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ever had any aversion to pleasure, taken as it ought to be, I was always as ready for a ball at Lord Mayors, — a Feast at Guildhale, a party to Hampstead, or Trip to Margate, as any Woman in the City: but Young Mr. Tobines Conduct is out of all reason — And if it was not for my dear dead Mr. Grogram's other partner, Mr. Fabby, whom the whole Town knows to be good as the Bank, and firm as the Monument, the poor Hen and Chickens that have been the pride of Bucklersbury for more than these fifty Years wou'd be Whereas'd in the Gazette in less than a fortnight.

Nancy.

You are mistaken, believe me Madam. I shou'd be miserable indeed from my dotage on Mr. Tobine, if I was not convinc'd that he had the best Heart in the World — that very goodness of Heart join'd to a ____ fatal turn for genteel pleasures, have laid him open to dangers which make me tremble — and which I have never daid to disclose to you.

Mrs Grog.

Dangers! what Dangers? Sure he has not thought of absconding, or altering Figures in his accounts? Or —

Nancy.

Dangers that affect no-body, but himself I assure you — He is too honest to hurt any body else — But press me no further to mention any thing to his prejudice — My present disguise is too convincing a proof of my partiality for him — We have been acquainted from Children, you know; and our mutual regard has grown up insensibly with us.

Mrs Grog.

Insensibly with a witness — at least on your part. The Man's undone, Nancy.

Nancy.

I hope not — I am as sensible as yourself of his Follies and Weaknesses, and have form'd this plan to wean him from them.

Mrs Grog.

By joining him in his Extravagance. A Strange

way of weaning by encouraging his Intemperance
Nancy.

Nancy.

Mix but a little Wormwood with the gratification
of it, and its the only effectual way, Madam.

Mrs Grog.

And when do you apply this Wormwood you
speak of?

Nancy.

All in good Time, Madam. In the mean while
a Surfeit may forward our purpose.

Mrs Grog.

But in the mean while he'll die of the Surfeit.

Nancy.

Nay leave my patient to me, I beseech you
Madam. consider too, that I have our friend
Dr. Truby, a most Skilful Physician to consult
on my operations. The disorder is now brought
to a Crisis: The Doctor and I are of the College
and we'll work a cure, I warrant you.

Mrs Grog.

Like all the rest of the College, Kile, or Cure, I

I suppose

Nancy.

{ John
Peggy }

No Cure, no Pay. I have felt his pulse, and it beats very high, I assure you. Not half an hour ago, I left him in a high fever, with every Cause and Symptom of Inflammation about him - the best Thing you can do is to put him to Bed; as soon as possible.

Mrs Grog.

What coming home in the Old Way I suppose?

Nancy.

In his old way, and with his Old Friends, Ranter, and Catchpenny, the Author & Actor. but had not we better retire, before he arrives Madam? He'll be for beginning the Evening again, and calling for Wine, if he finds me up, perhaps; for tho' but a new acquaintance, I am a violent favorite; and it is by his invitation, not yours, that I sleep here remember.

Mrs Grog.

Amidst all his pranks, I must say that for him...
you

You are the only Miss, he ever brought home with him.

Nancy.

And me, not as a Miss, you know. It will be some little surprize I believe, when he finds how often I have slept in his House, by his own Appointment.

Mrs. Crox.

Go, you're a mad Girl, but a good Heart, I'll answer for you.

Nancy.

And he's a Mad Spark! but honest, take my word for it. Exeunt. PS

Re-Enter Man & Maid OP.

John.

So, so; so; to be sure I see nothing, I hear nothing and I know nothing. {Ready to break Windows}

Maid.

Why what have you seen or heard, or what do you know Mr. Wise acre?

John.

Oh nothing, nothing at all not I, Servants

(5)

1 Tobine
2 Ranter
3 Catchpenny
& others with
Erinsigns
Chorus
Watchmen
Band &c

Servants must be Deaf, Dumb, and Blind
you know Peggy.

Maid.

Why for that matter, least said (as they say)
is soonest mended.

John.

I say nothing. I am glad to find Madam
Grogram, has all her Eye Teeth tho' - aye and
a Colts tooth or two into the Bargain - The
Gentlewoman can mumble a bit of upper crust,
stile I believe - I wish she don't get into bad
Bread here tho' - for this Young Rattle is but
a kind of Farthing Rose - Not your genuine
Household - the true Standard according to act of
Parliament - Between You, and Me Peggy.

{ Noise without of breaking Windows

Maid

Mercy on us, the Old trade again.

John.

Yes, yes, Master Tobine is coming home now, you
may be sure. Come, we'll go and let him in Peggy,
and take care to shut out his Companions.

Exeunt PS

{Wing Bell}

{Lamps down}

(Whistle) Scene Changes to the Outside

4 Band of the House. Tobine, Grogram, Tabby.
2. as Musicians
4 Supers. - in Large Golden Letters on Front. PS.

Enter Ranter, Catchpenny, and Others bearing
the Ensigns of Comus's Court. (All drunk.)

Catch:

Toby, come along Toby! Here is thy Mansion my boy
The glory of Silkworms, and the Gentleman's and
Lady's Magazine! Here is thy Castle.

Ranter:

Ay, come along my old Lad of the Castle; we have
brought the Trophies of Comus's Court from the
Club Room, and you shall make your Triumphant
Entry, like Alexander into Babylon.

Enter Tobine &c hauling the City Waits in PS

Tobine.

Here are Pipers, and Scrapers, and Scrapers, for you
my boys! Wind and Catgut forever, a jolly
night and a merry Christmas forever, I say

Musician

But Gentlemen.

Ranter. (pulling one of the Musicians)

Play away then Fiddles, and Hautboys; play away
Rascals.

Catch:

That they shall. Come, blow pipers, like a Chubby
cheek'd Boreas at the corner of an Old Picture!
and Fiddlers Scrape till your Elbows Ach again.

Tobine.

Oh, rare Catchpenny! Now Master Ranter, what's
your Midsummer nights Dream, to a good Winters
Evening? - London and December for my money;
the shortest Day, and the longest Night forever, I say.

Catch.

Wele, said little Toby! why you're the very genius
of a happy New Year - all Holly, and Ivy - Ivy -
an exact Emblem of Christmas.

Ranter.

An abstract and brief Chronicle of the Times, my boy.

Tobine

Hark ye Catchpenny! You're a Poet, here are the
Waits ready, and if you are lyrically inclin'd,
You may give us an Ode to some tune you see.

17

"Twas at the Royal Feast in Persia won." (Singing Recit.)
Catchp.

I'll tell you what Toby, I'll make a better Ode
than Alexanders Feast, Extempore.. Dryden was
no-body - not a Spark of true Poetical Fire in his
whole Composition - And as to Pindar - I'd Spin
better Odes than Pindar by a Versification of
Weatherby's Racing Calender.

Ranter.

Little Catchpenny.

Cath.

What dost thou say my Boy?

Ranter.

Don't you be jealous now, Old Dryden and Pindar
there's the Bell-man speaking his Verses yonder -
but don't let it make you uneasy I say.

Catch:

Why, thou blood of a Scene Shifter! thou Vile
Murderer of Blank Verse! engendred between a
Dancing Devil, and a Tragedy Princess. dost thou
think that my Poetry, was ever announc'd by a Bell,

like your former Exhibitions in the Country
with a Trumpet.

Tobine.

Plague on you both, and your Acting and
Poetry together! There's the Music sheering off
yonder. What signifies bringing the Trophies,
if we don't make the Streets Ring again?

Ranter.

I'll warrant you Squire — Come back you Scoundrels
Come Rascals, play us a Tune, fit for those
noble accompaniments! — I say a moving Club!
Ah Squire? (Pointing to the Trophies)

Tobine.

Ay, give us one noble Crash, One full Chorus,
and then perhaps we may let you go without
breaking your Heads Scoundrels.

Catch.

Let's have my last new Song Toby.

Toby.

So we will — Sing it Ranter. — Strike up
Musick.

(19)

Song by Ranter.

If Life is a Bubble and breaks with a blast
You must toss off your Wine, if you'd wish it to last
For the Bubble may wele be destroy'd with a Puff.
If 'tis not kept floating in Liquor enough

If Life is a Flow'r as Philosophers say 1
Tis a very good hint understood the right way
For if Life is a Flow'r any Blockhead can tell
If you'd have it look fresh, you must moisten it and

This Life is no more than a Journey 'tis said 3
Where the Roads for most part are confoundedly bad
Then let Wine be our Spur and all Travellers will own
That whatever the Roads, we jog merrily on.

This World to a Theatre liken'd has been 4
Where each Man around has a part in the Scene
'Tis our part to be Drunk, and 'tis matter of Fact
That the more you all drink Boys the better you'll act

This Life is a Dream in which many will weep 5
Who have strange silly fancies, and will cry in their Sleep.
But of us when we wake from our Dream, 'twile be said:
That the Tears of the Tankard, were ale that we shed.

End of Song Enter Watchman PS

Tobine.

A Ghost! a Ghost!

Ranter.

Angels and Ministers of Grace defend us.

Watchman.

A'nt you ashame'd, to disturb the Sober honest
Neighbourhood in this disorderly manner? You
ought to be made to give an account of yourselves

Ranter.

What may this mean? That thou pale Ghost
Revisits't thus the Glimpsies of the Moon,
Making Night hideous

Watchman.

Hideous! why hideous.

Catch.

I'll tell you what, Toby. with his Long Pole, and
his Santhorn; he puts me in mind of Old Time
with his Scythe, and his Hour Glass.

Watchman.

Hour Glass! I cry the Hour to be sure

Tobine.

Tobine.

Why harkee Old Fellow? — Dost thou think that with that lath of a Carcase, and that Dagger of Lath in thy Hand, thou wilt be able to Cope with this Company.

Watch.

It was some of this Company, I fancy, that lock'd me up tother-night fast asleep in my Watch-box.

Ranter.

You're Right Old Starlight and Moonshine! we lock'd you up tother night in your Sleep, sure enough, and to-night we'll lock you up again broad awake, my boy.

Catch.

Come little Toby, lay hold of him.

Watch:

Oh! if that's the Case, I'll soon be a Match for you

Shakes his Lanthorn — Rattle heard, and }

Enter a Possee of Watchmen. }

Catch:

An irruption of the Goths, and Vandals — Fall on my boys.
John comes out and forces Tobine into the House.

Ranter &c. Overpower'd by the Watchmen.

Ranter.

"Confusion! baffled, by a base born hind."

2^d. Watch.

Not so base born as yourself, may hap-Come along
my Masters! You shall go to the Round House, for
the present, and then before the Alderman, at
Guildhale, or the Mansion House

1st Watch.

We'll teach you to put Padlocks upon Watchboxes

2^d Watch.

We'll make you pay Sauce I warrant you.

Ranter.

Oh! I am fortunes Fool.

Reunt. PS

Drop 1st Chamber [End of Act 1st]

(A Dance)

Then when Ready drop Curtain

{ Saloon }
Wings }

Fobine Dresses.

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Act 2^d {Curtain drop} to discover}

1st Chamber - a Chamber

{⁽¹⁾
Tobine
John}

Tobine at Breakfast.

Tobine

Come, another Bowl of Tea (pouring it Out)

As to their Bread and Butter, and dry Toast, I could
as soon eat, or digest a deal Board (drinking Tea)

Getting Tipsey over-night is pleasant enough;
but its a devilish disagreeable Operation; the
Sobering Oneself again the next Morning - And this
meagre Slop does me no good neither (Rings)

Enter John PS

Make me a Doctor and put a Spoonfull Extraordinary
of Brandy, and a good deal of Nutmeg in it, dye hear,
I'm cursed Sick I doubt our Wine, last {Exit John.}

Night was not genuine, and then that damn'd Bowl
of Arrack Punch and Jellies with the broil'd Beef
bone, at three in the Morning quite overset me - But the

Women

Women would call for it - Let me see. - What say
the News. (taking up the Paper) Egad who knows but
I may supply matter for a Spirited Paragraph one
of these Mornings (looking at it) What's here, Modern
Characters by Shakespear. (Reads)

{ "The People of C - dash - d - ay - England no doubt
He shall recover his Wits there, or, if he don't
it's no great Matter - for there the folks are all as
mad as he.

| Wrote |

"Hamlet. Act 5th"

His M - dash - y

{ (2)
Tabby
=

Ay every Inch a _____

Enter John.

The Doctor, Sir. John

Tobine.

Very well, Set it down.

John.

A Lady in the Shop desires to see you. Sir.

Tobine

Bid Prig the Foreman speak to her

John.

He has, Sir, but she must speak to you she says.

Tobine.

Tell her I'm not at home.

John.

They have told her you are at home already, Sir.

Tobine.

Say, I am not well.

John.

She'll let no body serve her but yourself, Sir.

Tobine.

Is she pretty John?

John.

An Old Lady, Sir!

Tobine.

Than old Tabby may do for her, desire him to wait on her.

John.

I shall Sir. Exit PS

Tobine.

And now let me return to my Studies.—Let me see!

Ah plague, I'm so dizzy the Letters all swim before me (lays down the paper) I begin to be tir'd of my own Company

I'll send to see if Dick Rattles stirring yet -
 I like that young Fellow prodigiously - but hold,
 I hear him coming - Oh, I'death it's my damn'd
Bone of a Partner

Enter Tabby. P.S.

Good morrow to you, Sir.

Tabby.

Good Morrow! why I am just going to Dinner
Tobine.

May be so; but I have scarce breakasted.

Tabby.

ounds, I have no patience.

Tobine.

What do you swear at? What is the Matter Mr. Tabby?

Tabby.

Matter? - Do you know, Sir, that a Lady is just gone
 out of the Shop in a huff, and turn'd four & twenty
 Yards of Lutestring upon our hands, because you
 wou'd not go down and speak to her.

Tobine.

I am sorry to hear it, But how can I help her
 absurdity.

Tabby.

Be civil to all Customers! Keep your Shop and
your Shop wile keep you! Those were always the
Maxims of the Hen and Chickens in your good
Old Fathers Time, Mr. Tobine.

Tobine.

Very prudent, and provident I cannot dispute.

Tabby.

Cannot dispute! Then why dont you tread in his
Footsteps.

Tobine.

Why where's the mighty difference between us?

Tabby.

No two things in Nature more different. Old Humphry
Tobine was down Stairs at Seven or Eight by St.
Pauls Clock every Morning - took a running
breakfast - Shaved and dress'd for the Day - and then
with a Wig as white as a hoar Frost, and Shoes
like jet with the true Patent Blacking, stood for five
or Six Hours bowing to Passengers at the Shop door,
Or unrolling Bale, after Bale, with all the Civility,

And

and Small talk imaginable behind the Counter.

Tobine

A very profitable, and pleasant Employment.

Tabby.

Yes, yes, Old Numps minded the main chance, and he had no aversion to pleasure neither. — All his time before Church on a Sunday Morning, he spent making up his Books, in the Compting House — At twelve like a good Christian he brought home the Text — Then he had the whole Day before him — and after Dinner fetch'd a wholesome walk to see his Grandmother at Hampstead and smoked a comfortable Pipe or two in his way home at Mother Red Caps — There you might have seen him at the Door in his white Night Cap, puff, puff! puff as happy as an Emperor! — The Old Gentlewoman left him a warm Legacy — Ah! honest Numps was the Pride of the Common Council, and I dare say, if he had been alive at this day, would have been an Alderman.

Tobine

But why do you preach this funeral Sermon on my

poor Father to me, Mr. Tabby?

Tabby.

Because I wish you your Fathers Son Mr. Tobine.

Tobine.

On that Head it woud have been more regular
in proper time to have Lectur'd my Mother.

Tabby.

Why you Young Profligate - Have you no Respect
for the Memory of your Parents.

Tobine.

Religious!

Tabby.

Do you make Religion a jest then? Dead or alive
don't you honour your Father, and Mother.

Tobine

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{ Ranter
Catchpenny

The ten Commandments

Tabby.

Monstrous! There is neither Religion nor Morality
among the young Fellows, now-a-days

Tobine.

Sentimental.

Tabby.

Sentimental! a fine Can't Phrase you have pitch'd upon to laugh at every thing Serious, but have a care, the laugh is not turn'd against you, my Friend! the Contemptible Wretch who attempts to make a Joke of Honour, or Honesty, will find himself the only ridiculous object at last take my Word for it.

Tobine.

Sentimental again! I am surprized you don't write a Comedy Mr. Tabby.

Tabby.

Honesty is the best Policy, Mr. Tobine - Theres another Sentiment for you - a Sentiment that has made the City of London so flourishing - And if any of your Shew folks try to write that old Sterling Sentiment, or any other good Principles out of Countenance, I wish somebody may write their dying Speeches for them. - And so theres another Sentiment - The Gazette comes out twice a Week Remember. - And it is but a short Journey, from Bucklersbury to Guild-hall - but there is such a thing

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as dissolving Partnership, and Rats will quit
a faling House, or a Sinking Ship, and so there's
another Sentiment - and so, I wish you a good day
Sir. Exit hastily PS

Fobine

Good day, Old Fabby! - Thus endeth the first Lesson
I'd fain begin a new Chapter - It's almost two
o'clock, I wonder no-body has call'd - It seems a
fine Morning, I'll e'en draw on my Boots, and ride
through the New Road to Rotten Row - Sukey Straddle's
in the Park, I dare say, in Boots and Spurs, and a
pair of Buckskin as usual - Perhaps she may have
another tumble too, and I may be of use to her.

Enter Ranter, & Catchpenny. PS

Ha! Ranter! Catchpenny? My Knights of Adventure
Good Morrow! You have pass'd the night, or, rather
Morning in the Round House I dare say, what
Magician has deliver'd you from the Giants of the
Pole, and their Enchanted Castle? - Unfold!

Catchpenny.

You left us in the lurch Squire.

Tobine

Not I faith, honest Catchpenny. My People dragged me into the House, and toss'd me into Bed - And I was fast asleep before I had time to enquire after you.

Ranter.

Egad little Toby, last night's riot had like to have turn'd out a rehearsal of a Tragedy. They carried us before Old Solomon sitting in Judgment in Guild-hall, and he was going to make us over from the Round House to the Poultry; but it appearing no Windows were broken, but your own, no other harm done, and the Watchmen softned down with a Crown, or two, after a little prosing, as dule as a Sentimental Comedy, he set us at Liberty

Catch.

Dule as a Sentimental Comedy! Well said Ranter "Dule as a Sentimental Comedy" Why there is no such thing as a good new Play now, it must be confess'd - but no Wonder Men of Genius are discourag'd from Writing for the

Theatres - Plays are tender Plants, and require
the warmth of a Nursery.

Tobine.

Why Modern Plays are apt to be ricketty.

Catch:

The Taste of the Town is depraved, Sir; they relish
nothing but Farce, and Outre, and Extravagance
Sir. a Jealous Woman in a Fit, saves one Play
from Damnation. calling a whole Family out of
their Beds half naked at midnight is the
Salvation of a Second: and the tumbling down
of a Screen gives Reputation to another, but
they have no true Taste, no damme, no taste after
all, for genuine Simplicity, or the Sublime.

Tobine.

Let them feed like the Prodigal upon Husks then!
You can supply them with those, little Catchpenny
Catchpenny.

Nay, as for that matter, the Town, the Town, are
not so much to be blam'd neither. Their Taste is
Vitiated by the barbarity and ignorance of the

Managers, and corrupted by the badness of the Actors. If a Poet had the fire of Aschylus in his Composition, the wretched dulness and ignorance of those fellows, woud be sure to extinguish it.

Ranter.

Not so fast, not so fast Master Catchpenny! The present Actors are at least as Excellent as their Authors. Give us a Shakespear, We'll soon produce a Roscius!

Cath. + fa k

You grow warm my dear Ranter, sure you cou'd never imagine yourself interrested in this question

Tobine

Oh impossible!

Cath.

No, my dear Ranter, if we had but six such Actors as you, Our Stage would soon Rival the Old famous Performers, Your Betterton's, Your Booth's, and your Garricks, would soon hide their

diminished Heads like Stars before the Blaze of
the Sun shine.

Ranter.

Oh! my dear Catchpenny!

Cath:

Nay its true - Very true my dear Ranter; I'll be
sworn - Is it not Toby?

Tobine.

A mere Fruism - no-body can dispute it.

Catch.

Besides which, I must say, my dear Ranter, that
every time I have seen you lately you seem to
have acquired some new excellence - has n't he,
Toby?

Tobine

Oh yes, always licking up something new like a
Snow-ball.

Catch.

Very true! they always speak of Ranter at our
Club, by the name of the Theatrical Snowball.

Ranter.

Nay my dear Catchpenny, I no more squinted at you in what I said of the Poets, than you confounded me with the Actors - for Damn me Catchpenny, if I don't think that your Play had Strokes! - Strokes? nay whole Scenes equal to Shakespear. There was a delicacy, a dignity, a - you understand me - which I will own many of our Gentlemen were not equal to. I don't care to abuse my profession - but there is scarce an Actor on the Stage, Man, or, Woman that has the least Idea of gesture, or emphasis, Shakespear Otway and Lee, are out of their reach - What Actor living can speak those Lines?

"Can none remember?" Yes, sure all must.

Tobine.

Well said Ranter.

Ranter.

And then where have you an Actor now equal to the passion of Othello? (taking Catchpenny by the Collar)

"Villain be sure you prove my Love a whore
"Be sure on't! give me Ocular proof.

Catch.

Hold! hold Ranter! this is too violent (disengaging himself)
 Do you give me that tender speech in the third act
 of my Play, that you made such a figure in
Ranter.

I'm almost out of breath faith
Tobine. ~~X 40 v~~

Nay give us Catchpenny's tender Speech, Ranter,
 - that will be no fatigue to you
Ranter.

I would give it you with all my Heart; but
 hang me, if I have not entirely forgot it
Tobine.

That's pity.

Catch

Ay, he was not perfect in the piece, when he
 play'd in it.

Ranter

Not perfect!

Catch.

No, if you had, you woud have gain'd such an

applause in that Speech

Ranter.

Applause! why if I remember, that Speech was more his'd than any Passage in the whole Play.
Catch.

Yes, your speaking, it, was his'd
Ranter.

My Speaking it.

Catch.

I mean your not Speaking it. You were out,
 and then they his'd

Ranter.

No they his'd, and then I was out. Every
 body allow'd I did the part more than Justice; so
 don't lay the Damnation of your play upon me.

Catch.

Damnation! what do you mean by Damnation?

Ranter.

Why you know it was acted, but one night

Catch.

No, but it was given out for a second, after which

my friends left the House - the rest of the Pit and Galleries were my Enemies - A Set of fellows that wou'd cut my throat - all Sailors, Sir, nothing but Sailors.

Ranter

Why should they be angry with you? and how do you know they were Sailors

Catch.

A friend of mine prov'd it upon them in a Court of Justice. He prosecuted them for calling them selves the Town, and convicted them in Westminster Hall.

Tobine.

A plain case; a Combination of the journeymen nothing so evident!

Catch:

Nay, they were wise in not suffering it to be acted again, for the Rascals knew, if it had gone a second night, it would have gone fifty.

Ranter.

A thousand, I'll be sworn for it.

Catch.

Not that its fate on the Stage was entirely owing to Enemies neither - for you can't say it had Justice done it by the performers. I am not partial to my own works, but if ever there was distress in a last Act _____

Ranter.

I am sure the Performers did the Distress of it Justice, for we were pelted with Oranges all the last Act: - We all imagin'd it wou'd be the last Act of our Lives

Catch.

Damnation!

Ranter.

Yes, a Complete Damnation - I told you so -
"For nothing canst thou to Damnation Add
Greater than that." _____

Catch: + take

Why thou Vile retailer of Scraps, fed with the offals of the Drama: that never knew more of a Play than your own Part, and the Cues that

belong'd to it. Do you presume to talk to a
Gentleman? ~~to us~~

(4)

Bounce PsRanter.

And why not? Sure you forget yourself, Master
Catchpenny, Sock and Buskin may hold a
Dialogue with Pen and Ink at any Time.

Catch.

Why thou execrable Barn door Roscius, it is not
seven Years ago, that you and one of the Fifteen
miserable Women that bear the Name of Mrs Ranter
march'd across the Country with a Jack Ass, and
a pair of Paniers; Yourself for want of a Coat
in the Habit of Alexander: Statira leading the
Ass, with Thunder and Lightning, and other
Stage properties in one panier; and a young
Prince of the Blood, and Princess Royal in the
other.

Ranter.

And is it more than three Years ago that you
left your Lodgings in the fleet by favor of an act
of Insolvency? And did not you turn experimental

Philosopher while you were there? And did not the People at the Tap refuse to send you Porter, because you melted down the Pewter Pots Rascal.

Tobine.

Nay, but Gentlemen!

Ranter.

And if you talk of Poverty, did not you for many Years live upon Subscriptions for a translation of Hesiod, never intended, nor expected to come out, till you were known all over the Town by the name of Hesiod Catchpenny? - And at last when every body was tir'd out, and your circular Letters of Compliment grown too notorious to raise half a Crown for you - did not your last Wife - for you Beggar, you never could keep above one Wife at a Time - did not your last Wife I say procure a Supply by going about with an account of your Death, and begging money to bury you.

Tobine.

My dear Ranter! my good friend Catchpenny.

Catch.

I'll mouse in the Green Room him for this.

Enter Bounce ps

Tobine.

Oh Bounce, I'm glad to see you Bounce! come
and help me to make Peace between these two
Gentlemen.

Bounce.

With all my Heart, so you'll assist me in
making War afterwards.

Tobine.

War! where's the Enemy?

Bounce

You saw how Mr. Squib treated me yesterday

Tobine

Pshaw! is that all? Not less than a dozen
Challenges and meetings have past between you
and Squib already, and nothing has come of
them.

Bounce.

But I have been considering the Affair, and I
find, I can't in honour put up with it - I must
have him out.

Tobine

Only ^{to} let him go quietly in again.

Bounce.

I have sent him a Challenge this Morning for Breakfast - Will you be my Second.

Tobine.

If you're sure you're in earnest.

Bounce.

I have just bought a new pair of Pistols.
May I depend upon you?

Tobine.

Your Time and Place?

Bounce.

The Spa Fields, in a Gravel Pit, within a Stones throw of Islington - about the Dusk of the Evening.

Tobine.

And you're sure you'll do business

Bounce

His or mine must be done - One of us must drop I promise you. so up PS

Tobine.

Well, then my Friends (to Ranter & Catch) let this fresh Quarrel, that has broken out among other parties be of some use at least, and prove the means of conciliation between you.

Catch.

Nay, I had always the greatest Respect and Regard, for Mr. Ranter, and have always said both in Conversation and Print in Theatrical talk and intelligence, he was the most of a Gentleman of any Man in his profession

Ranter.

And I am sure there is not a House about the Garden where I have not constantly Spoke in the highest Terms of Mr. Catchpenny, as a Man of Honour and Genius.

Tobine

Well, Boys, and Friends then.

Ranter.

With all my Heart.

Catch:

With the Greatest pleasure.

Both together.

Shaking hands & Embracing

Tobine.(5)
Nancy

You see Bounce, Squib and you, will come to this presently.

Bounce.

Never, the Spa Fields remember. Blood and Satisfaction
The grave and a Gravel Pit! Good morrow to you.

Tobine.{Exit PS}

Good morrow! Shall we have your Company
in the Field Gentlemen?

Ranter.{16
Squib PS}

Why we have a new piece in Rehearsal - I have
fail'd several Times, for they make us Rehearse
night and Morning: I must shew myself there
at least. - So I can't promise you. x ps

Catch.

It is my province as a Poet, and Historian to
Record great Actions, but I leave it to such
Heroes, as Mr. Bounce, and Mr. Squib to perform them.

Tobine.

We shall, meet at Juggins's.

Catch.

Without Doubt.

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Ranter.

Most certainly

Catch.

Little Folby, Good morrow! Come my dear Ranter.
Ranter.

My dear friend Catch penny.

PS Exeunt Ranter, & Catchp: Embracing
Tobine.

So, the quarrel between Bounce and Squib; and the Reconciliation of Ranter, and Catchpenny are two Events of equal Importance, and in which all the parties are equally in earnest.

Enter Nancy. O.P.

Oh! Squire Rattle, good morrow to you! - You stole away last night. What a small Engagement I warrant? I thought you were very sweet on Peggy Williams, young Gentleman.

in Nancy.

No faith, I had a Head ache, and came home directly. But I heard you had a riot. You were not hurt I hope?

Tobine.

Tobine

Oh! it's impossible to be hurt, with such prudent allies, as Ranter and Catchpenny, and their spirit was so little broken by the discipline of the Round house or the Admonitions of the Magistrate that they came to a fresh Rupture this Morning.

Nancy.

Ay, on what Occasion.

Tobine.

The Old account — themselves to be sure — and before they were reconcil'd. Bounce came with intelligence of another impending Duel between himself and Squib — Oh, here is Squib; he'll let you know the particulars.

Enter Squib, P.S.

Squib.

Tobine! good day! Dick Rattle, your Servant. Time presses, the Affair, is urgent, and I must come to Business immediately — that silly Dog Bounce has sent me a Challenge, and I am to meet him directly

Tobine.

I know it. Bounce has been here just before you

But you'll not fight Squib?

Squib.

Oh! we must fight Sir. There is a silly impertinence about the fellow, that must be chastis'd. He will never be easy till we have exchang'd fires.

Tobine.

There has been a deal of smoke without fire between you hitherto.

Squib.

No doubt of our coming to action at present. I'll make him serious. My visit was to desire you to accompany me.

Tobine.

I have just engag'd myself to Bounce

Squib

You are a Man of Honour, and I'm glad of it
Dick Rattle, here, will go as my friend.

Nancy.

I - You must excuse me, Mr. Squib - I am engag'd on particular business.

Squib.

Zounds, Sir, desert a Man of Honour?

Tobine.

Pshaw! you must go Rattle.

Squib.

To be sure he must. What is your particular Business, to an Affair of this nature, Sir.

Tobine.

Bequiet Squib! Reserve your Fire, till you meet Bounce, Rattle shall attend you, I'll answer for him.

Nancy. (aside)

What can I do?

Squib.

I am satisfied

Nancy.

~~What will become of me~~ (aside)

Tobine.

Away Squib, and prepare the materials. Bounce has told me the Spot and we'll meet you

Squib.

I can Split a Bullet on the Edge of a Penknife

Nancy (aside)

Mercy on me.

Tobine.

Well, well, away and make ready then!

Squib (Cross)

Bounce is a dead Man. I can hit a Sixpence or a Waistcoat Button, not broader than a Marrow-fat at twenty Yards distance — a dead man, damme.

Exit P.S.

Manet Tobine & Nancy.

Tobine.

Ha! ha! I am half angry with you, Rattle, I know you despise these Reptiles as much as I do. when a Joke is so ripe, how cou'd you think of foregoing it?

Nancy.

I have no objection to a joke; but a ⁶Duel is a very Serious Affair.

Tobine.

A very ridiculous affair between such parties I promise you. We must punish their mock Valour, for its impertinence

Nancy.

You may if you please — but I had rather —

Tobine

Why sure you are not afraid Rattle?

Nancy.

No, no; not afraid - but - but -

Tobine.

Nay, if you were it wou'd not signify - do but keep your own Counsel. A Child with a Wooden Gun would over match both of them. We'll cool their Courage for the future I warrant you.

Nancy

Well, I shall Submit to your direction - But I am glad to see you in such Spirits, and hope they proceed from you having drop't the dreadful thoughts you hinted to me.

Tobine

Just the Contrary: They rather prove my having made up my Mind, Rattle - My Affairs are come to a Crisis, and most damnable entangled they are to be sure - I must cut the Knot - there's no untying it

Nancy.

You make me Shudder to mention it; and your chear-

-fulness in a State so desperate. —

Tobine.

Oh! nothing so easy, as a Man in despair.

Nancy.

I always thought otherwise

Tobine.

In Books, Poems, Plays, Novels, and Romances,
I grant you — But not in real Life; not in the
World — Do but look at all the People that are
Ruin'd without Resource, and see how easy they
are ! Hope ! hope ! is a State of Anxiety, I grant
you. Fear and Suspense are distraction, but
Once plunge into the Gulp of Despair, your Cares
are Swallow'd up in an Instant.

Nancy.

But I see no necessity for your plunging into it
Your affairs are not so desperate.

Tobine

What wou'd you have me go out in a Smother ?
Stick my Life upon a Save-all, or glimmer in
the Socket ? Ho, I'll clap on the Extinguisher

while I am in full Blaze my Boy.

Nancy.

But for a Man scarce involved in any difficulties, not encumber'd with Debts. —

Tobine.

There's my Comfort Rattle. I have run out my own Fortune to be sure, and my last Guinea, and last Moment will come pretty nearly together, but I Scorn to hurt any body else. The World shall see, when I wind up the account that I have involv'd no Partners, taken in no friends, deserted no Bondsmen, and forfeited no Securities; I am partial to men of pleasure, and people of Fashion to be sure, but damn me if I have not been Surpriz'd how some of them cou'd go off in peace when they only finish'd themselves at home, after actions for which they ought rather to have been finish'd at Tyburn.

Nancy.

Your way of thinking is noble, but still rather too violent. You once told me of an Opening to

settle yourself advantageously in marriage.

Tobine.

Why that at first sight appears the least desperate measure of the two; and there is a generous girl who I know was partial enough to me, to have taken me, such as I am for better, for worse. but I could not trust my own Passions or her power far enough to be convinc'd of Stopping in my Career; So I rather chose to abide the issue alone than incur the chance of involving her I lov'd - for I did love her Rattle - and her that lov'd me in my indiscretions.

Nancy

Sure it is not even yet too late to apply to her.

Tobine.

No, no; I have rather us'd her ill, and can't submit to Confession, penance and mortification - No, I'm resolv'd to go - in my circumstances it is Spirited, honourable, and genteel - the Die is cast, the Game is up - all I am in doubt about is the mode of effecting it - What dye think of a Pistol.

Nancy.

Shocking! to be shot like a Deserter! It is too much in the style of a common Malefactor.

Tobine.

Why that was my objection to hanging! tho' I attended three Executions on purpose to see the effects of it. I have had some thoughts of drowning I am told it is not unpleasant.

Nancy.

Had not you better only report you are drown'd?

Tobine.

Report I am drowned! what good will that do me!

Nancy.

Oh! a great deal - First of all, we can insure twenty or thirty thousand on your Life; then Advertise a reward to the Barge men, and Lightermen, for the Body of a Gentleman who walk'd out towards Black Friars or Westminster Bridge; and then, on your non-appearance; conclude you lost in the Thames, and come upon the under writers.

Tobine.

You jest Rattle - You know I have too much honour, Sink or Swim, I'll not be a Scoundrel.

Nancy.

Drowning will not do at any rate

Tobine

Why not?

Nancy.

The contemptible Exit of Kittens & blind puppies
Besides it's impossible.

Tobine

Impossible!

Nancy.

Absolutely. They'll take you up, and bring you to Life again.

Tobine.

That's damn'd hard, in a free Country; I did not think of that. Drowning will not do then. What would you advise me to Rattle?

Nancy.

Will you leave the Management of this Matter to me.

Tobine.

Implicitly, there is a softness, and sensibility,
a good nature, and integrity about you that have
taken me, wonderfully, or I should not have let
you far into my confidence, It is only for you
and a few more of your complexion, that Life
is worth a moments reflection - But a short life
and a merry one - that has been always my
maxim Rattle - So what is your counsel?

Nancy.

Why if it must be so - my prescription is poison

Tobine,

So are many other prescriptions - But why
Poison?

Nancy.

A gentle opiate, I mean, a mere Anodyne, for
I would have your end as easy as your life
has been Jovial.

Tobine

I like your Idea - and will you undertake to
purchase the Cordial.

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Nancy.

I will provided you will solemnly engage yourself
to use no other means till you have tried the effect
of it.

Tobine

I will not upon my Honour, when I have said
that you know you may trust me.

Nancy.

I am sure of it - and you shall find me equally
faithfull. but stile I hope you will alter your
mind, when you have got over this fit of melancholy.

Tobine.

{Ring}

No Melancholy in the case my friend, the
Spleen, and the Climate are mere common place
notions, and totally groundless; Gentlemen
end themselves only because they can't live away
any longer. High living, and not low spirits,
is the Phisical cause of their Conduct, fine
Houses, fine Quils, and fine Horses have
fifty times the influence of a gloomy November.

Nancy.

I believe you are a good deal in the Right

but have you no apprehensions.

Tobine.

Oh! I guess, what you mean. None at all.
Some books I read while I sat under my Hair
Dresser, have made me quite easy on those subjects

Nancy

And to what wise Philosophers, is the inside of
your Head indebted for such signal Obligations

Tobine.

To a couple of Doctors, very deep reasoners I
assure you. Read the Calculations and thoughts
of One Doctor, and the Disquisitions of another:
Take your Ideas of civil Liberty from the first,
and your notions of Philosophical Necessity, from
the Second; and you make yourself perfectly easy
about Religion, or Politicks. One will convince
you that the Nation like individuals will be
announced Bankrupt in the Gazette in less than
a twelve month, and the other will prove as plain
as a pike Staff, that Matter and Spirit, Soul and
body, are both the same thing, both lighted up

and Extinguish'd at the very same instant.
Such Authors make us quite careless about
our fortunes, or Actions here, and totally
indifferent as to the fate or event of hereafter.

Exit. O P.

End of Act 2^d. Drop Saloon

Act 3^d(1) Globe Flat 1c ① Drums ClothD^r. Truby OP Nancy An apartment at D^r. Trubys.Enter D^r. Truby and Nancy. OP.Truby.

And your Suspisions really prove true then?

Nancy.

Too true, Sir

Truby.

So that what he threw out carelessly, turns out to be his serious intention.

Nancy.

Most serious.

Truby.

I always said, he was a Blockhead - an ignorant

Nancy.

Believe me my dear Doctor Truby, you mistake his character.

Truby.

Ay, you are as great a Fool as He. or, you would not be so partial to him.

Nancy.

He has indeed an unhappy turn for pleasure
and a silly ambition of being a fine Gentleman.
but yet —

Truby.

A fine Gentleman, I never knew any good come
of your fine Gentlemen, especially of your City
fine Gentlemen. The Red Heels to their Shoes
and White Feathers in their Hats, may serve
well enough, to shew the lightness; and emptiness
of the proud Monkies at the West End of the
Town; but a Citizen, should from Head to foot
be a Citizen. There is a certain Solid Dignity,
a heavy Grandeur about the Mansion House
that becomes the Top of Cheapside. A Change
Alley Broker, a Lombard Street Clerk, or a
Ludgate Hill Mercer turn'd Top and Macaroni
ridiculous, and as much out of character as
if the Giants at Guildhale were seen dancing
a Minuet at Almacks, or the Pantheon.

Nancy.

But some allowance, Sir, must surely be made
for his Youth, and then ill chosen Company.

Truby.

Company ill chosen with a Witness! the highest
of the low, and the lowest of the high — ah!
I knew no good wou'd come of it, when he got
acquainted with Lord what d'ye call him. —
took him up two pair of Stairs into his
Phæton, and carried him out of Town on parties
of Pleasure with his Lordships led Captains
and Kept Mistresses.

Nancy.

Truce with your Satire my dear Doctor, have
some pity for me at least, and think what I
must suffer at the present moment.

Truby.

Why I do pity you, and that's the Reason I
abuse the Puppy, and I would not abuse him
if I had not a Regard for him — The nonsense
of the rest of the Young Blockheads about Town
never disturbs me.

Nancy.

But my dear Doctor Truby, You are my
Confidant consider, and ought to comfort me.

Truby.

Yes, you are a Female Quixote, and I am your
Medical Sancho; an Old Fool, that sees all
your Follies, and yet assists you in the pursuit
of them.

(2)
Tobine
Bounce

Nancy.

Do but bring this Adventure to a happy
conclusion, and it shall be our last Sally Doctor

Truby

Don't be too confident of success. The Damn'd
Windmills Vertigo of Dissipation has kept such
a Whirl in his Ideas, that it has turn'd his
brain.

Nancy.

His Principles are sound, I am sure; and
you know the Heart often corrects the Head
Doctor.

Truby.

Where it does not, the Heart and Head I know
are both good for nothing

Nancy.

Bring him to a thorough Sense of his
Extravagancies, and I am persuaded he will
abandon them - but where is this Potion
Doctor? I am terrified at the very Idea.
tho' I know that you'll give him nothing
that is not perfectly harmless.

Truby.

He'll not think it so, I promise you.
The preparation is innocent enough in its
Consequences it is true, but it is likely to
give him some very serious alarms in the
Course of its operation.

Nancy.

But if those alarms, Doctor. —

Truby.

Nay, if you deliver him from his
apprehensions too soon, you will not only
betray me, but most probably restore him to

his absurdities. we must purge his Passions, by means of Pity, and Terror, like the old Writers of Tragedy. A thin, Water gruel composition that is not strongly impregnated with both, is not worth a Farthing

Nancy.

Sweeten his Blood and correct his humours with whatever Decoction you please Doctor.

Truby.

Nothing more bracing than Bitters, no Alternative more effectual than Wormwood - Come with me, and I'll furnish you ^{x to 0.12} immediately - but be sure to act as I order you.

Nancy.

I'll administer nothing without your direction, or consent, depend on it.

Truby.

And what a pretty use you make of your Physician Madam.

Nancy

The Best in the World Doctor, no Practice was

ever half so Beneficial.

Truby.

Beneficial! why I shall be paragraphid
with the compleat Virgin killer, advertiz'd
for in Journals, and Mercury's, to dose Ferrets
Foxes, and Polecats, and cried at Wakes and
Fairs, as a Fellow that Travels the Country
with Quicksilver, Arsenick, and Ratsbane -
may perhaps I may be known all over the Town
in a Fortnight, by the Nick name of Romeo's
Apothecary

Exeunt O.P.

Wing Bell. }^② Scene Spa Fields }^②
and Whistle }
(Open Country.)

Enter Tobine & Bounce P.S.

Bounce (Singing)

Dragons, pour, boine, on dit give vous avez le
mon - um - um - um - a fine afternoon Mr. Tobine.
um! - um! -

Tobine.

Very fine, and very pleasant.

Bounce

(3)

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Squib} \\ \text{Nancy} \end{array} \right\}$ PS

Oh! Extreamly pleasant. (Singing)

Mais pourre combattre On dit que nom, um! um!

Tobine.

Why you're in Spirits Bounce.

Bounce.

Pretty well, Sir! - But Sir, I always hum a tune
when I am serious, Sir. - One of the old
Philosophers always repeated his A. B. C
when he was in a Passion, Sir; and a late
Nobleman who knew the World better than any
body, always advises to do every thing in
Minuet Time, Sir - Dragons pour boine de Singing

How do you like these Pistols Mr. Tobine?

handsomely Mounted, Rifle Barrell'd you see.

On dit que vous etez. (Singing)

Tobine

Rifle Barrell'd - have a care Bounce; You may
kill two Birds with one Stone perhaps.

Bounce.

Sir, I don't desire to kill any body, Sir.

I have been unlucky enough to be often involv'd
in quarrels, but I am a Man of a very
peaceable disposition, I assure you, Sir. —

Hi de coup de Sabre. (Singing)
Tobine.

We are first on the Ground, Bounce, can we derive
any Advantage from it?

Bounce.

None at all, Sir. Hi de pistolet. (Singing)

Tobine.

The last Time you call'd Squib out. I am told you
were at the Spot, an hour before the time, he
came an Hour after the Time, and so you never
met at all.

Bounce.

Sir, it was partly to rectify that mistake, I
appointed him now, Sir.

Tobine.

He makes it very late tho' - if he shoud not
come at all.

Bounce.

To be sure. I have heard of Cowardly Poltroons,
fellows that.

Tobine.

Ha! here he comes: Squib, and Dick Rattle with
him.

Bounce.

Yes, yes, I know Mr. Squib would be punctual
a Man of Honour and Courage, Sir. Dragons, pour
boine &c. (Singing).

Enter Squib & Nancy. PS

Tobine.

Oh, your Servant Gentlemen! Come, we have no
Time to lose, let's to business immediately, the
Pops are much of a Length I hope. Where are
yours Bounce?

Bounce.

Here, Sir, are my Instruments - um - um -

Tobine.

And yours Squib.

Squib.

Here! high-ho! (Gives them to Nancy PS)

Tobine.

All fair well how far will you stand?
not less than ten paces I hope; Let me see (measuring)

Nancy.

Stay, Sir; just before we arriv'd, Mr. Squib said something of an accommodation. Hand D

Tobine.

Accommodation? impossible. Rattle you know to what length matters have been carried between them.

Bounce.

Let's hear what the Gentleman has to say, however, Mr. Tobine.

Squib.

Nay, I only said, that Mr. Bounce to be sure had a right to demand the satisfaction of a Gentleman if he thought himself affronted to be sure; but I declare upon my Honour that I never meant any affront to him.

Bounce.

No, did not you mean to sneer at my Affair, with

Sir Jacob Flash on the Story you told about the
Gascon and terrible Tom at the Coffee house.

Squib.

Not in the least, unless you meant the Table of
the Ass in the Lion's Skin, by way of application
to me.

Bounce.

To be sure—if you supposed that I glanc'd at you
it is no wonder that you should allude to me.
But I declare to you Mr. Squib, and to these
Gentlemen here, that I had no such intention

Squib.

No.

Bounce.

No, upon my honour, Sir

Squib.

Why then if you meant no reflection upon me;
I am very ready to make a proper apology; for
any chance words that might be offensive to you.

{ 4 Juggins
4 Waiters

Bounce

Why, Sir; if you are willing to acknowledge.

Tobine.

Oh! damn me! they are come to their I's again.
 Hark ye. Gentlemen, if you meant an Explanation
 You shou'd have thought of it before, Are we to
 be made fools every time you choose to expose
 yourselves?

Squib.

Why, Sir; if we are both satisfied, no offence
 was intended on either side, and if — X to 3

Tobine.

Ay, more I's — these are a couple of Scoundrels
 Lets kick them Rattle.

Nancy.

Lord, Sir, I came here as Mr. Squib's friend —
 consider.

Tobine.

Wele then not to fail in point of good Manners,
 I will kick your Friend, and you shall kick mine
 if you please. + to 3

Bounce.

~~But Sir.~~ —

Squib.

But Mr. Tobine.

Nancy.

~~I'm sure you'll excuse me.~~ (to Tobine)
Tobine.

Nay I insist upon it. and first of all here goes
for Example. (kicks Squib)

Squib.

Mighty fine, Sir. I shall remember this?
Tobine.

I hope you'll never forget it - How your Foot to
my Friend, Rattle.

Nancy.

I beg your Pardon Mr. Bounce, but you see it is
not in my power to act otherwise (takes off her Hat
and kicks Bounce
You'll excuse me, Sir.

Bounce.

I shall pardon you, Sir. for your politeness, & civility
but if we are not amply reveng'd on your Friend
there (Going with Squib)

Tobine.

Tobine.

Hold Gentlemen, before you go, One word more
with you to put an entire Stop to your vapouring
and Challenges for the future, I will have you
confess plainly, that you are both Scoundrels
and Cowards.

Squib.

Well, you are pleas'd to say so, Sir.

Tobine.

Say it yourselves, Rascals! and Bounce you shall
be Spokesman.

Bounce.

Very well - Suppose us so, if you please, Sir.

Tobine.

Suppose won't do, I must have it from your own
Mouth, Sir.

Bounce.

Well, you have, Sir

Tobine.

In so many Words, Sir.

Bounce.

I have allow'd it, Sir.

Tobine.

Kick him again Rattle

Nancy.

I beg your pardon, Sir (taking off her hat & kicking him)

Bounce.

ounds what wou'd you have?

Tobine.

I wou'd have you declare in express Terms, that
you and Squib are a Couple of Cowards and
Scoundrels.

Bounce.

Well, to oblige you, Sir. we are Cowards, and
Scoundrels.

Tobine (to Squib.)

Echo him Sirrah.

Squib.

Oh, yes, we are Scoundrels, and Cowards to be
sure, Mr Bounce

Tobine.

Once more Salute, my Friend, Master Deputy.

(Nancy kicks out Bounce)

Tobine

and here take your own friend, at the rebound
like a Tennis Ball Kicks Squib towards Nancy, who
(P.S.) Kicks him out after Bounce

So much for an Affair of Honour! and now Rattle
for our Party at Juggins's, and as we go we'll
confer upon Business.

Nancy.

Oh, my dear Friend, do but reflect.

Tobine.

If you love me Rattle, don't talk of Reflection.
of all Things in Nature it is the most insupportable
{Wino Bell} Exeunt P.S.

Whistler { Scene the Tavern.
Globe Flatt. ③ } Table
14 Chairs.
Dumbchess.

Enter Juggins & Waiters O.P.

Juggins

Come bustle, bustle, get this ^{Room} ready for Mr. Tobine
and his Company - quick, quick - they'll be here
presently - and you know he always chuses the
Mermaid - The Room smells of Tobacco like a

Hackney Writers eating House, or, an Inn at
the University

Robin 1st Waiter.

The Gentlemen that dined here, are but just gone
Siz.

Juggins.

How the Devil came you to shew them in here;
a Set of Stupid Fellows, muddling for four Hours
over their Ink Bottles of thick Port, and then
Casting up the Bill, and paying their Reckoning
by Items, so, that one can't mount an odd
five Shillings, or Squeeze in an Extra Article
Edgways.

Antony 2^d Waiter.

And then not leaving above half a Crown for
the Waiter - Zounds, a Man might as well
be a worsted Stocking Parson, or a half pay
Officer as a genteel Waiter at that rate

Juggins.

Oh! you think of yourselves, but never consider
your Master.

1st Waiter. Robin

Indeed we do, Sir. To pluck the Guests and to feather your Nest, is all our Study, Sir.

Juggins.

That's an honest Lad .. Those are the right principles of a thorough good Servant. - a very honest Lad, but harkée, Robin.

1st Waiter. Robin

Sir!

Juggins.

How came you to let Mr. Tobine have the Claret with the Anchor and black Seal, all Yesterday Evening.

1st Waiter. Robin

You know it's the Sort he likes, and he is one of those you always wish to oblige, Sir.

Juggins.

Yes, for the first three or four Bottles - But you shou'd have chang'd it upon them afterwards - It's all one by that time - at least you may swear them out of the difference.

1st Waiter. Robin

I'll take care for the future, Sir.

Juggins.

Do so, always mind your Business, and be true
to your Master — You, Antony.

2^d Waiter Antony

Sir.

(5)
Tobine
Ranter
Hancy
Catchpenny

Juggins.

How came you not to Charge, Harriet Spriggins's,
Chair hire, in the reckoning last night?

2^d Waiter Antony

She came afoot, Sir.

Juggins

A Foot — you Greenhorn! and what then, Sir.

2^d Waiter. Antony

Nay it was not only for that, Sir: but you know
She lives but at next door.

Juggins.

And suppose, she liv'd in the House, Sir; what's
that to the purpose? You should always charge
Coach or Chair hire, if it was but for the Honour
of the Lady, and the credit of the Garter, You
Blockheads. why you may as well bring a Lady

in Pattens.

(Ready to R/B.)

2^d Waiter. Antony

I'll make up for it another time, Sir.

Juggins.

See you do then, never wrong the House, Remember
that's the way to be known for an honest Servant
and to keep up a good Character. Tom Pelleman!

Tom 3^d Waiter. *Carried away 0 2*

Sir.

Juggins.

Have you got in the Vitrol to quicken the Claret.

Tom 3^d Waiter.

I have, Sir.

Juggins.

And the Turnips for the Champagne?

Tom 3^d Waiter.

Yes, Sir.

Juggins.

And the black Currants to brew the old Port.

Tom 3^d Waiter.

Yes, Sir.

Juggins

And is the Poker in the Fire, to make the Spa, Water?

Tom 3^d Waiter.

All ready, Sir.

(Bar Bell Rings)

Juggins.

Oh! I hear the Gentlemen coming - how be sure
you open Bottles of as many different Wines as
possible during Supper time.

Robin 1st Waiter.

We shall, Sir.

Juggins

And when the Cloth's taken away,
put on Olives, and, Pistachia nuts
and so forth, call'd for, or not call'd
for, dye hear?

Tom 3^d. Waiter.

Very well, Sir.

Jugos.

And plates of Dutch Beef, and Anchovies on
Toast about two in the Morning.

Robin 1st Waiter.

To be sure, Sir.

Juggins.

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And when they call for another Bottle, carry in a
Scotch Pint, and always a Bottle with the Bill, you
know.

2^d Waiter.

We'll take care, Sir.

Juggins.

Do, so, do so; never neglect any Articles, that may
run up the Reckoning. Twist, Stay tape, and
Buckram - make out the Bill remember.

1st Waiter.

We'll be sure to do you Justice, Sir.

Juggins.

Ay, ay, never wrong the House, and by, and by
you may come to have honest Servants under you
and keep a House yourselves perhaps -
Stand clear, here come the Gentlemen.

Enter Tobine Ranter Patchpenny &c PS.

Bell for Catch Chairs bro' On.

Light those Candles Robin; bring up the Wine Antony.

Tobine.

Some of your Old Brandy, first Juggins.

Exit Juggins OP.

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Zounds I'm as cold with the Air of the Spa Fields
as if I'd been up to the Chin in the New River. the
Rascals were oblig'd to us for kicking them Ranters
- if it was only for the sake of warming them

Ranter.

It must have been a pleasant Scene, I wish
I had been there.

Catch

I shall take the hint, and Advertize the Duellists.
a Satire, immediately.

Ranter.

And may your Satire produce as good a Bottle
and Bowl as this here before us Catchpenny.

Catch.

Well said Ranter - Come little Toby.

Tobine.

{ All seat themselves

Zounds! I'm frozen; where is this Brandy.

Enter Juggins.

Here, Sir! right Nantz - genuine French Spirit
as ever was Tasted. Helps Tobine

Tobine.

Give me another Glass. — Here goes — now I'm primed — so lets to Business. Going towards the Table.
Juggins.

Here is the Change out of the Thirty pound Note your Honour, left with me to discharge the Marshalsea Writ, for Miss Judy Atkinson. The Debt and Costs — came to Nine pounds twelve, Sir.

Tobine.

Give poor Judy the rest then! and tell her to buy Mourning with it, for the first Friend she loses.

(Goed to the Table)

Juggins.

16
 { Waiter
 with Decanter }

I shall, Sir; this Mourning will make her quite joyfull.

Exit O.P.

Tobine.

Well, said my Boys; Come, here's a Bumper, much good may do you, my Bucks.

Catch.

Come Gentlemen, a general Hob-nob, to little Toby's good Health. — All Drinck.

Tobine.

A glass of thanks my Boys! and now we have
all whet our Whistles, lets have your last Prize
Catch Ranter.

Ranter.

With all my heart, Toby! Strike up, and mind
your hits my Boys.

A Catch.

Twas you Sir.

Twas you, Sir.

Catchpenny.

Brava! - Bravissimo! we begin to wax jolly
now - What d'ye say, shall we have the Wench's up
Toby?

Tobine.

Pshaw! no.

Catch.

And why not Toby?

Tobine.

Prithee be quiet and Toy with your Imagination
for this Evening Catchpenny, Come, Charge, and
Drink about my Boys..

Catch. (apart to Ranter.)

What a queer humour he is in. If he won't allow us the Girls; lets have some Hazard Ranter.

Ranter.

I'll give a broad hint - um - um - Sounds, this Table's full of Dents from the Dice Box, as Pat Johnsons Face from the Small Pox. - Suppose we call for the Tatts - and have a merry Main - Eh! Toby?

Tobine.

Damn your Main, what should we play for? I have no money to lose, and I am sure you have none for me to win. Ranter, drink about, I say

Catch.

So he has nick'd you, Ranter.

Ranter.

The Squire is in a drole Vein indeed to-night.

Tobine.

Come, here goes, another Catch and a half pint my Bucks.

Ranter.

No, no; we'll have a Glee; We'll Sing Old Rose

and burn the Bellows.

Catch.

Old Rose and burn the Bellows. Act
Tobine. (Ring.)

Well done, well done! Sung like any nightingale
 Come, one more round my Lads and then.

Bonus nocius.

Catch:

Bonus nocius! what dye mean Toby.

Tobine.

Mean! I thought you were a Scholar Catchpenny
Bonus nocius is Latin for good night you know
Ranter.

Good night? why we are scarce warm in our
 Chairs yet.

Tobine.

No matter for that, I have business, so good night
 I say. the dearest Friends must part, so good
 night I say again - We are at the last Page.

Finis, Catchpenny, - The Play's over, Ranter
 Excuse Omnes, so away with you - I pay the

Reckoning, you know, so away with you -
 Here Waiter, bring me a Pint of Brandy, and
 take away the Gentlemen.

Catchpenny.

This is the strangest Whim.

Ranter.

Well, good night Toby! You'll hear of us at the
 Piazza, when you come to yourself again
Tobine. Ex Parte but Tobine
PS

Very well, - You'll hear of me presently (Account PS)
Tobine. (Solus)

Enter Waiter with Brandy.

So, now I'm alone.

One Charge more.

"If thus a Man can die

"Much bolder with Brandy. (half Singing)

Much Virtue in good Brandy, to be sure -

But let me see - To be, or not to be, that is the question
 To be a Gentleman, a Man of the World, a Man of
 Property, a Man of Pleasure - 'Tis a Situation
devoutly to be wish'd - But then to be ruin'd.

to be a Bankrupt, to be in the Gazette, ay
there's the Rub, Come Cordial, and not Poison
(taking out a Phial) but hold! what if this Mixture
do not Work at all Why suppose it should not,
I am but where I was, only that I shall be oblig'd to
call Rattle to Account, for cheating me.

"And yet methinks he should not
"For he hath stile been tried an honest fellow.
Here's to his Health - and here's to my true Love,
my dear Nancy Lovell too (drunks) Oh! potent draught.
Whether it is the potion, or the Wine, and the Brandy
Whether I have drank myself dead, or am dead
Drunk, I can't tell - but I feel cursed sick, and
very heavy to sleep, and woe! woe! be to Dick
Rattle, if I ever wake again.

Sleeps & the Curtain Drops.

End of Act the Third. (25 Minutes)

Speak to give out the Play.

{Nancy to Drefs.} .

Speak to give out the Play. { Juggins
4 Waiters }
a Phial

{ Stage } Act 4th Globe Chamber
cleard The Tavern

Enter Juggins & Waiters OP
Juggins.

Sent for to Mr. Robines, what is it over with him then?

1st Waiter.

Not quite, Sir; but so bad it seems that he is not expected to recover —

Juggins

But how came we to be sent for.

{ John.
Peggy }

2^d Waiter.

By Order of Squire Ferret, his Worship from the Rotation Office, who is now attending to take our Examination, and has summoned us before the whole Bench in Bow Street to-morrow.

Juggins.

Why so?

1st Waiter.

Because they say the Squire was poison'd by the

Wine Sir.

Juggins.

The Wine! Oh! The Devil! Tom Cellarman.

3^d Waiter

Sir

Juggins.

You certainly put too much Arsenick into
that Madeira. you dog.

3^d Waiter

Not more than usual, I assure you, Sir.

Juggins.

Come, come, I know it was foul, when it came
from the Minories - Confess, did it not want
help a little.

3^d Waiter.

Not in the least, Sir.

Juggins.

Did not you put him into the Chair, Antony.

2^d Waiter.

I did, Sir, Robin, and I brought him down
Stairs, and pack'd him off together, Sir.

1st Waiter.

He neither mov'd, nor stirr'd Sir. and whether he was dead, or in Liquor, or asleep, we could not tell, Sir.

Juggins.

But—

Juggins.

Are you sure there was a Phial found in the Room, where Mr. Fobine spent the Evening

2^d Waiter.

Quite, Sure. — here it is, Sir.

Juggins. (take the phial)

Well, well, you're an honest Lad and I know you'll say so, for the good of the House
But—

2^d Waiter.

Say so— I'll swear it.

Juggins.

Yes, for the good of the House, I know you will

but we are only friends here, so now you may
speak truth; was this little phial really
found there.

2^d. Waiter.

It was indeed, Sir, just as you see it, on the
Floor, Sir.

Juggins.

What no little paper Cravat with a direction
upon it?

2^d. Waiter.

{ John
Bolus
=

None at all, Sir.

Juggins

Faugh how it smells - Here take it again Robin
and be sure you stick to your Text now.

2^d. Waiter.

I warrant you, Sir.

Juggins.

And Tom Cellarman, not a word of the
Arsenick, d'ye hear.

3^d. Waiter.

Not a syllable Sir - I'd no more betray the

Secrets of Trade, than take a true Oath at the Custom House.

Juggins.

Thats an honest Fellow: always the good of the House remember! Ah! I never thought my old Friend Mr. Tobine would have serv'd me so a Stranger indeed! - I shou'd not have wonder'd but for a friend to take away the Credit of the House by coming here to destroy himself - It was very unkind of him - But come along. - Sink the Arsenick! and Stick to the Phial - Come along, Boys.

{ Ereunt PS} {Peggy}



An Apartment at Tobines. (2)

(2) 1st Chamber no Change of Wings
Bell Rings violently. Enter hastily

John & Peggy meeting

Peggy with Jugs, Mugs, Basons &c.

John.

Oh! here Peggy give me those Wings - I'll take them to my Masters Room, and do you run for some

more *Carduus*, and *Camomile Flowers* immediately
and send up some more Mugs, and Pans, and ⁽⁵⁾
Basons immediately

Peggy. John. { Ranter
Catchpenny

I will and get a Flask of Florence Oil -
but how is my Master John? (Bell ready)

John.

Very bad, very bad indeed

Peggy.

Poor dear Gentleman, oh la! what shall we do
for him Ereunt Severally.

Re Enter John. hastily Meeting ^{ps} Bolus the Apothecary

John.

Here bring the - Oh Mr. Bolus, I am glad you are
come back, I was just going to send for you.

Bolus.

How is the Patient.

John.

Worse, and worse I think, Sir.

Bolus.

{ Dr. Truby
Tabby
Mrs. Giogram
Nancy } Bell
ready

Small Bell PS

Has Doctor Truby been here, yet?

John.

No, Sir; he was sent for out of Town to Lord Flimseys early this Morning, but is expected home every instant.

Enter Peggy running PS

Peggy.

Here are the Bassons, and the Cloths, and the
John.

Run up with them directly then.

Peggy.

I fly. — Oh dear me Exit Peggy OP.

John.

Up those Stairs — You know the way, Sir.

Bolus. (going) (returns.)

He's not asleep I hope.

John.

Broad awake, but in great pain, Sir.

Bolus.

So much the better — Did they give him the Chalk Emulsion, I order'd him, every half hour.

John.

They did, Sir.

Bolus.

And have they put on the Blisters to the Soles of his Feet?

John.

Yes, Sir.

Bolus.

And chaf'd his Temples, and burnt Brimstone under his Nose.

John

Ale, Sir.

Bolus.

Oh! very well. — (Exit severally.)

Enter Ranter & Catchpenny.

Catch.

Oh! here is his Man, he can inform us.

Ranter.

How is your Master John?

John.

Exceedingly ill, Sir.

Catch.

We are very sorry for it, But is his illness owing
to the Wine he drank last night John?

John.

Something he had at the Tavern no doubt, Sir.

Ranter.

I thought so — I said it had a damn'd Taste.
and the Punch was a Bowl of Poison

Catch.

I turn'd Sick, the moment I got up this Morning
ounds, I shan't be easy this twelvemonth

Ranter.

Can't we see your Master

John

By, and bye, Sir; please to Step into the next
Room, Sir.

Exit John. O.P.

Ranter.

We will — I'm in a cold Sweat.

Catch.

I'm in a burning Fever.

Ranter.

Ranter.

Zounds Catchpenny what a Catastrophe
Catchp.

My dear Ranter what a Figure this will cut in
the news papers.

Enter Dr Truby, Tabby, M^r Groogram
and Nancy in Womans Cloaths O.P.

Tabby.

We are very much oblig'd to D^r Truby to be sure
but this is a Touch of the Times: this comes
of his wanting to be a Gentleman. File within
these Seven Years. I never heard of an Attempt
of the kind on this side of Temple Bar, since I
have been in business

Mrs Grog.

No truly; it is enough for your Lords and Dukes
and your Quality at the other end of the Town
to hang and Drown, and Shoot themselves
a Sober Citizen never us'd to hurt himself,
or, his Family, however he might make free
with other people.

Dr. Truby.

Well, my good Friends, the secret you are now made acquainted with is the best apology for the late Conduct and disguise of your Kinswoman and if we manage him properly, in his present Situation, perhaps we shall be able to insure the future happiness of your Family, give peace and quiet to this Girl, who is fool enough to doat on him, and not only restore the blockhead himself to the World, but make him a Valuable Member of Society.

Fabby.

Why to be sure, if he would but have given his mind to Business, no-body had a better notion of it - Ten times cleverer than old Numps, (7) that I must say for him.

Dr. Truby.

PS { Servant
Handbile
Wingrave

How was he, when you left him Madam.

Mrs. Croo.

In a peck of troubles poor Soul! So sick, and so miserable, so sure of being at Death's door.

as he thinks, and yet so desirous to live, it would make your Heart yearn again.

Nancy. * to Dr

Indeed my dear Dr Truby, I begin to dread the Consequences of what he has taken, the agitation of his mind is of itself sufficient to be fatal to him.

Dr. Truby.

Not a bit I tell you; his mind must be agitated still more, and if you don't follow my prescription in this Case, I'll give you over forever.

Nancy.

I shall certainly continue to be govern'd by you, Sir.
But —

Dr. Truby.

As to what he has taken, don't be uneasy about that, however alarm'd, he is in no sort of danger. I promise you - we have frighten'd him with the apprehensions of death already, and if the fellow has as much principle, as I always thought he had, we shall inspire him with the most anxious desire of Life again.

Nancy.

Pray Heaven we may.

Dr Truby.

Does he know of your being here?

Mrs Grog. ~~x to Dr Nancy~~
~~+ to Dr Truby~~

Yes, that he does, he has ask'd after her a hundred, and a hundred times over, and raves about Nancy Lovelle, and his Dear Friend Dick Rattle.

Dr Truby.

We must interest him stile more for both these Characters - You may visit him now - we'll follow you presently - Hay keep up your Spirits, and go thro' with the business, you play'd the Mans part to a Miracle, but you'll spoil all if you put on too much softness with your Petticoats. Reserve your Tenderness for a proper Occasion.

Nancy.

I'll do all in my power, Sir. (Exit Weeping)

Dr Truby.

'Psha! the Girls a natural, and yet her Sorrow

wile answer our purpose well enough. if she does not betray us: we had better not leave her too long, alone with him. (going oP)

Enter Servant PS.

Servant (to Tabby)

Mr Wingrave desires to speak to you, Sir.

Tabby.

Wingrave! who's he! - what does he want?

Servant.

Lives in Cheapside, Sir; and has sent in One of his Shop Bills

(Gives a Bill)

Tabby.

Well, desire him to walk up then. {Exit Serv.} PS
Dr Truby.

Come Madam, we'll visit our patient, and leave Mr Tabby to his business.

Exeunt Dr Truby & Mrs Prog: oP.

Tabby.

"What have we here (Reading) "Peter Wingrave"

"Upholsterer, Appraiser, Undertaker, and Auctioneer

"Furnishes Funerals!" What the Plague does the fellow

want

want to bury us alive. Oh, here he is.

Enter. Wingrave & Servt. P.S. Servt. op.
Tabby.

Your Servant, Sir.

Wing.

Your very humble Servant, Sir.

Tabby.

And what is your pleasure with me, Sir?

Wing.

I came, Sir, in hopes of your Commands for your Partner's Funeral.

Tabby.

Funeral.

Wing.

Yes, Sir, Funeral. I have heard of his accident
Something abrupt in his Exit to be sure, a little
Anglicism or so - but then I made no doubt, but
the Family would take care to have it brought in
Lunacy.

Tabby.

Lunacy, Sir! who told you then there was a Death
in the family?

Wingrave

Oh, Sir; I never fail to enquire after their Health
 my Scouts are always on the Watch, I heard of it
 immediately. I have every thing constantly in
 readiness for any part of England, and nobody
 has better Scarves, gloves, and hatbands, handsome
 Coaches, and hearse, or more able Horses.

Tabby.

Horses! why the Church is almost next door, you
 know.

(8)

ServantWingrave.

No matter for that, Sir; the less Occasion there is
 for them, so much the Grander to have them;
 It was but last week I buried Mr. Rennet the
 great Cheesemonger in Thames Street, and the Hearse
 and Six Stopt at the Church porch, before the Coach
 for the last Set of Mourners had drawn up to the
 Street door.

Tabby.

Rennet! why I don't believe he was ever in a
 carriage in his whole Life time.

Wingrave

The Executors were resolv'd to have every thing
handsome, and took down the Sign to make Room
for the Hatchment - a Hearse and Six; and three
Coaches and four I assure you; when folks are
traveling to their long home: they can't have
too good an Equipage, Sir; and none cleaner,
neater, or genteeler than mine, in any part of
England, Sir. - I am sure Mr. Tobine would
wish to have me put him into the Ground, Sir.

Fabby.

No doubt on't.

Wing.

I did a great deal of Business for him in his
Life time

Fabby.

Ay! What business did my partner employ you
in 'Mr. Wingrave'

M^r. Wing.

I furnish'd three Houses at his Expence for Ladies
in the new Buildings - One indeed had been

furnish'd by the Lady's own Order - but then I sent in the Goods, and an Execution upon them together, and, M^r. Tobine afterwards paid the Charges of both.

Tabby.

The Devil he did!

9
Tobine
Dr. Snuby
M^r. Grog
Nancy.

Wingrave.

Yes, indeed, Sir. and it is a very common Practice among People of Quality. Several of the politest Houses are furnish'd in the same manner. Persons of Fashion in this Country always take great Care of the Benefit of their Tradesmen.

Tabby.

So it seems my Friend; and then they give you an Opportunity of serving them in due Order in all your several Capacities - Let me see - what says your Hand Bill. Upholsterer, Appraiser,
Auctioneer and Undertaker. - Ay, first of all, you supply them with Furniture, as an Upholsterer, then Value it as an Appraiser, or, knock it down as an Auctioneer, and soon after

put them into the ground as you call it, as an undertaker.

Wing.

Just so, sir — and it was I that —

Enter Servant OP Waldown Inn.
Serv. (to Tabby)

Dr. Truby desires to see you, in Mr. Tobines room
sir.

Tabby.

I'll come to him. (Exit Servant OP)

Well, Mr. Wingrave, I don't know that we shall want you at present.

Wingrave.

Presently at least I dare say, sir. The Doctor and Apothecary has been here some time I find and we shall soon be wanted, I warrant you

Tabby.

Well, in that case, we shall send for you

Wingrave

Ten thousand thanks, sir. — I have had the pleasure of burying the family for many years

past, and I hope, I shan't lose your Custom. I never
heard of any Complaints

(10)

Tabby.

{
Tabby. PS
a paper

No, I dare say.

Wingrave.

It was I that buried your good Lady, Mrs Tabby
Sir - a prodigious fine Corpse, it wou'd have done
you good to have seen her, Sir - Mrs Van, what
dye call 'em, that her Husband keeps Pickled, and
preserv'd in a Glass Case, does not look handsomer.
a very genteel Funeral! - The Vault rather too low,
and narrow, for your Family to be sure, but we made
shift - placed Mrs Tabby in the Middle, her Grand-
mother on the left hand, reserv'd room for your
Honour on the right, and stowed the four little Children
Edgeways o' top.

Tabby.

Mighty well manag'd - but I'm wanted Mr Wingrave
Your Servant.

Exit O.P.

Wingrave

Your Servant Sir - I'll take care to have every thing

ready, your very humble Servant, Sir. I.S.

~~Nina B. A. 2~~ **R A**

Exeunt Severally. (3)

{ Table wth Phials
on ye.

Strip'd Chamber. Couch on

Tobine on a Couch in a hight Gown.

Dr Truby, Mrs Grogram, Nancy Servants.

Mrs Grog.

Do you think there are any hopes then Doctor

Dr Truby. (feeling his Pulse)

I don't like his Pulse, I assure you, put out your Tongue if you please - ah! very bad, very bad truly.

Tobine.

I feel extremely weak and faint - all will soon be over.

Mrs Grog.

Let me give him something heartning Doctor,
Some Godheys Cordial, or Pepper mint Water.

Nancy.

Take Comfort, Sir.

Tobine

Ah! my dear Nancy, how kind is it in you to Endeavour to administer it: Is it possible you can retain the least concern, or regard for so lost, so wretched a creature!

Nancy

Heaven knows how much I feel for you; why did you not confide in your truest Friends, my whole Fortune would have been, and still is entirely in your disposal.

Tobine.

You are too generous to one so unworthy.
How could I be blind to so much Excellence!
I see my folly now it is too late, the thought of it
is an additional Pang, and I regret the loss
of Life, which I might have employ'd in redeeming
my Character in your good opinion. — Nay do
not weep for me, I have not deserv'd it.

Enter Tabby P.S.Tobine.

Well, Mr. Tabby, what news of my friend Rattle.

Tabby.

The worst in the World
Tobine

Am I reserv'd for more misery before I depart
then? Let it come at once. Make me acquainted
with it, where is my friend?

Tabby.

Apprehended on Suspicion of wilfully giving
you poison

Tobine.

Apprehended!

Tabby.

Yes, and if you should do otherwise than well,
it is thought it will go very hard with him.

Tobine.

Heaven forbid! He is the best, the worthiest
of men. I alone am to blame, and pray be
witness that I acquit him entirely

Tabby.

Ah! but his Confession before the Justices, I am
afraid will make your Testimony of no Service

to him. In this Paper is an account of the ingredients of the mixture you have taken, and which he says he procur'd for you, the Doctor perhaps may be able to give an Opinion of them

D^r. Truby.

Writ

Let me see (taking the paper) Arsenick, Hemlock Opium." — Zounds, here was enough to destroy twenty Men! — It is Surprizing he is alive at this moment. The Wine, and Brandy I suppose in some measure prevented the Operation of this Infernal Mixture; or, it must have dispatch'd him, almost immediately. Don't you feel very ill at present, Sir.

Tobine.

My bodily pain is trifling, but the agony of my mind is inexpressible.

Nancy. (apart.)

I cannot bear to see him so miserable

D^r. Truby.

Be quiet Simpleton (apart)

Tobine.

I charge you to take notice of my declaration

of my friends innocence, It was my own Act
Entirely.

Tabby.

I am afraid he will be consider'd as an Accessary
and yet, I believe what the Law can do to him
is of very little Consequence; for the poor Lad is
so affected with what he has done; and so
distrest at hearing what you have suffer'd, that
I don't think he will live to take his Trial.

Tobine.

Blest with two tender and Valuable friends,
and to involve them both - the most faithful of
Men, and the most affectionate of Women, in
my ruin.— How dreadful is my Situation,
Wantonly prodigal of my Life, and yet feeling
myself a wretch, and a villain, the moment
I am to part with it

Nancy.

Nay, I must, I will speak Comfort to him:
I can withhold no longer - Your own Life, Sir.
the Life of your friend are neither of them in
danger.

Tobine.

How! what say you.

D^r. Truby.

~~Wink~~

Ah! there is no stopping her.

Nancy.

Even my blushes shall not stop me from declaring to you, Sir; that the tender friend you see before you, and the person whom you cherish'd as the most faithful of Men are one and the same person.

Tobine.

Ha!

Nancy.

Who liv'd with you as a Companion in order to prevent the mischief you meditated against your self, and who now rejoices in having accomplished her purpose.

Tobine.

Thou most generous of Women! thou dearest of Friends, is it possible.

Nancy.

Nancy.

Most certain!

Tobine.

And have not I taken poison then?

D^r. Fruby.

Not you indeed, Sir. — What you have taken was one of my Recipes: If it has rummag'd you a little so much the better. a little Tartar Emetic for the Stomach. Some Jalap for the bowels and a few grains Extraordinary of Opium, are the whole Composition — and if you think it likely to be of Service to you, I hope you will recommend it to some of your mad friends, and acquaintance

Tabby.

Get a Patent for Vending it Doctor, and distribute it as largely as possible — for no Englishman have a right to throw away their Lives, when their Country has so much occasion for them.

Tobine.

The pains you have all taken to preserve mine deserves my warmest Thanks — but how shall I pay my gratitude here. (To Nancy)

Dr. Truby.

When you are recover'd from your present Weakness,
She'll tell you how - In the mean time resolve to
make her as good a Husband, as she is likely to
prove a good Wife, for she is fool enough to love you
with all your absurdities. One promise however
I must exact from each of you.

Nancy.

You have a right to command us in every thing.

Tobine.

Do but name it, and be assur'd of our compliance
Sir.

Dr. Truby.

Briefly this then - That you Madam, will never
more quit the Petticoat, nor you Mr. Tobine
ever die again, as long as you live.

The End.

Epilogue

The Critic's say and constantly repeat,
 That Woman acting Man's a silly Cheat;
 That ev'n upon the Stage it should not pass;
 To which I say, a Critick is an Ass.

As Man, true Man, we could not well deceive
 But we like Modish Things may make believe
 Would it be thought I gave myself great Airs
 To put my Manhood on a Foot with theirs?

Speak you that are Men, is my pride too great
 To think you'd rather have with me - a Tete, a tete.

In this our Play what dangers have I run
 What hair breadth Scapes, and yet the Prize have won
 Is it a Prize, he may prove cross or jealous
 In Marriage Lotteries the knowing tell us.
 Among our Modern Youths much danger lies
 There are a hundred Blanks for one poor prize
 Was I not bold ye Fair to undertake
 To tame that wildest Animal - a Rake?
 To lead a Tyger in a Silken String
 Hush the loud Storm, and clip the whirlwinds Wing
 My pride was piqu'd, all dangers I wou'd thro'
 To have her way - What will not Woman do.

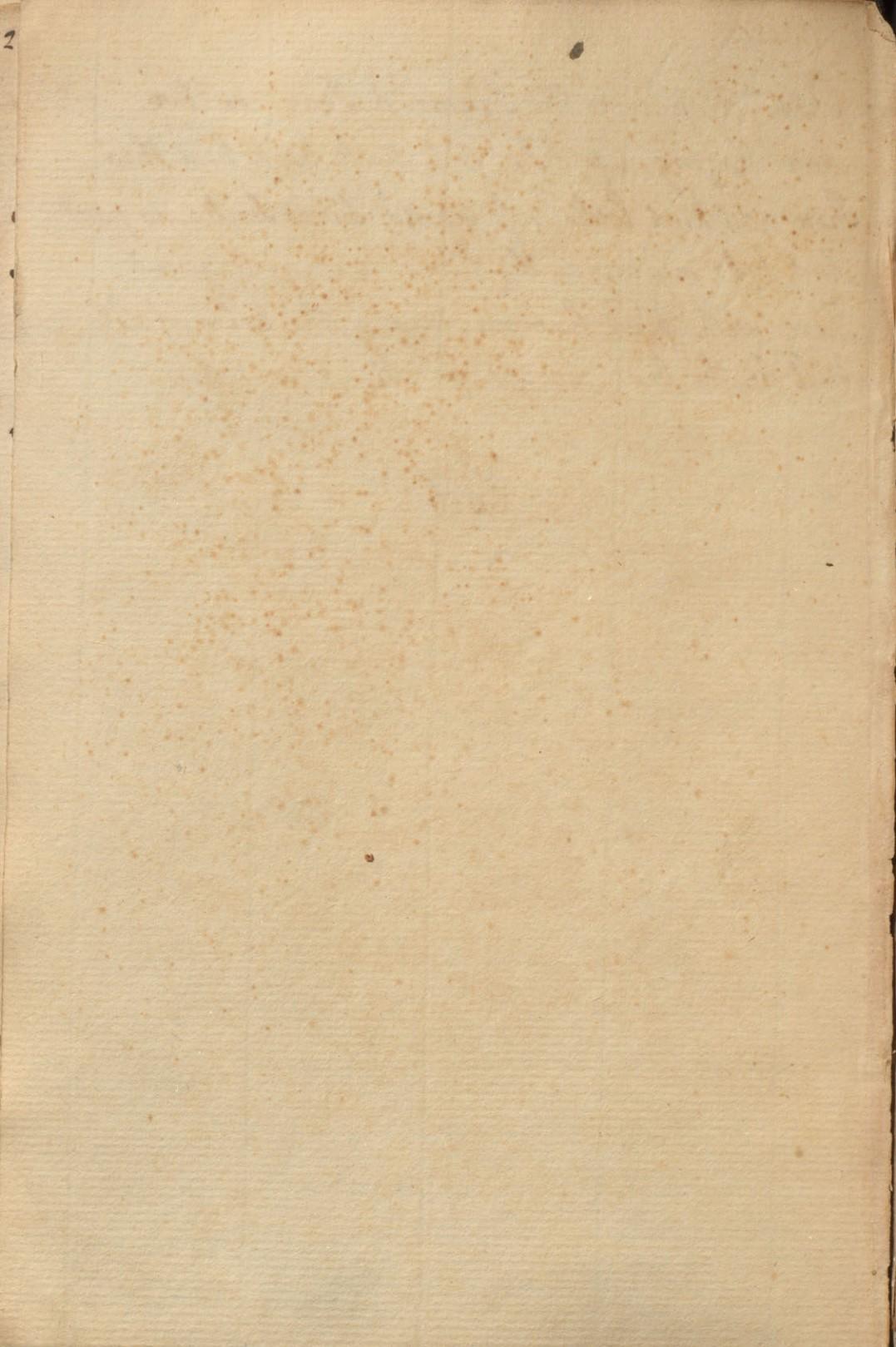
The Papers Swarm each day with Patent Puffers
 For Smoaky Chimneys - Powders, Mouse trap, Snuffers
 And I could Name, as wele as Fortune raise
 To cure by Patent La folie Angloise

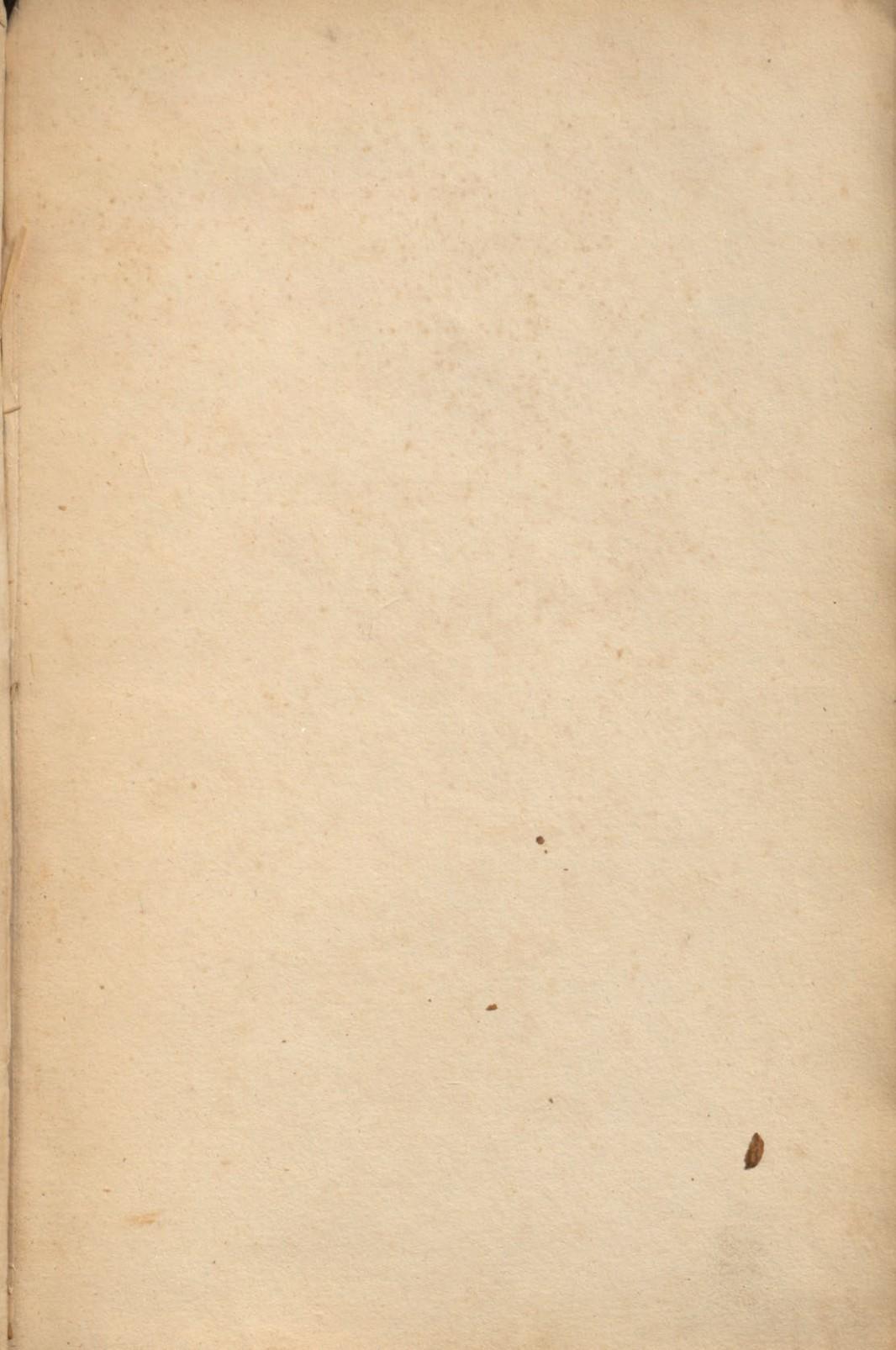
I'm sure you alle my Nostrum will approve }
 By natures Guidance let your passions move }
 Drive out that Demon Haming, by the Angel, Love. }
 But Ladies, if you wish to know my plan
 By Stratagem, not force, attack your Man
 By open war the Danger is increas'd
 Use gentle means to sooth the Savage Beast.
 If when his Blood boils o'er - Yours bubble too
 Then ale is lost, and theres the Devil to do
 Puff! Puff! - Blown up at once the Lovers part }
 He Snaps his Chain, and Madam breaks her heart. }
 Hymen puts out his Torch, and Cupid blunts his Dart. }
 Thus ends the Farce, or Tragedy of Love
 But Ladies, if your Sparks, are given to rove
 From my Experience take one general Rule
 Cool as he warms, and Love will never cool
 If smoke prevails, and the choak'd flame is dying
 Then gently fan it with some little sighing .

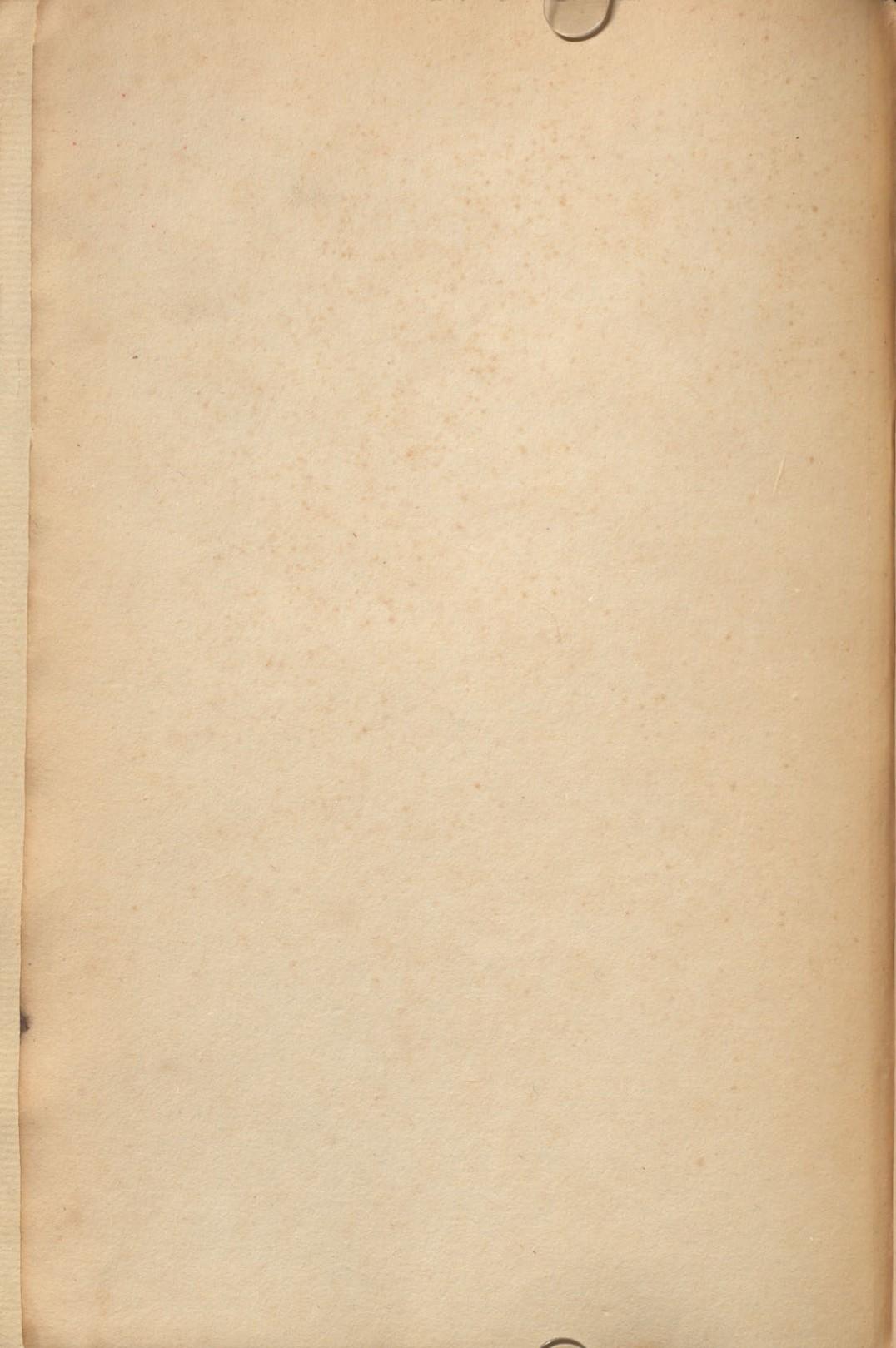
Then drop into the Flame a Tear or two.
And blazing up like Oil, will burn him thro'
Then add kind looks, soft words, Sweet Smiles-no pout
And take my word the flame will ne'er go out
These with good humour mix'd, the balm of Life
Will be the best receipt for Maid or Wife

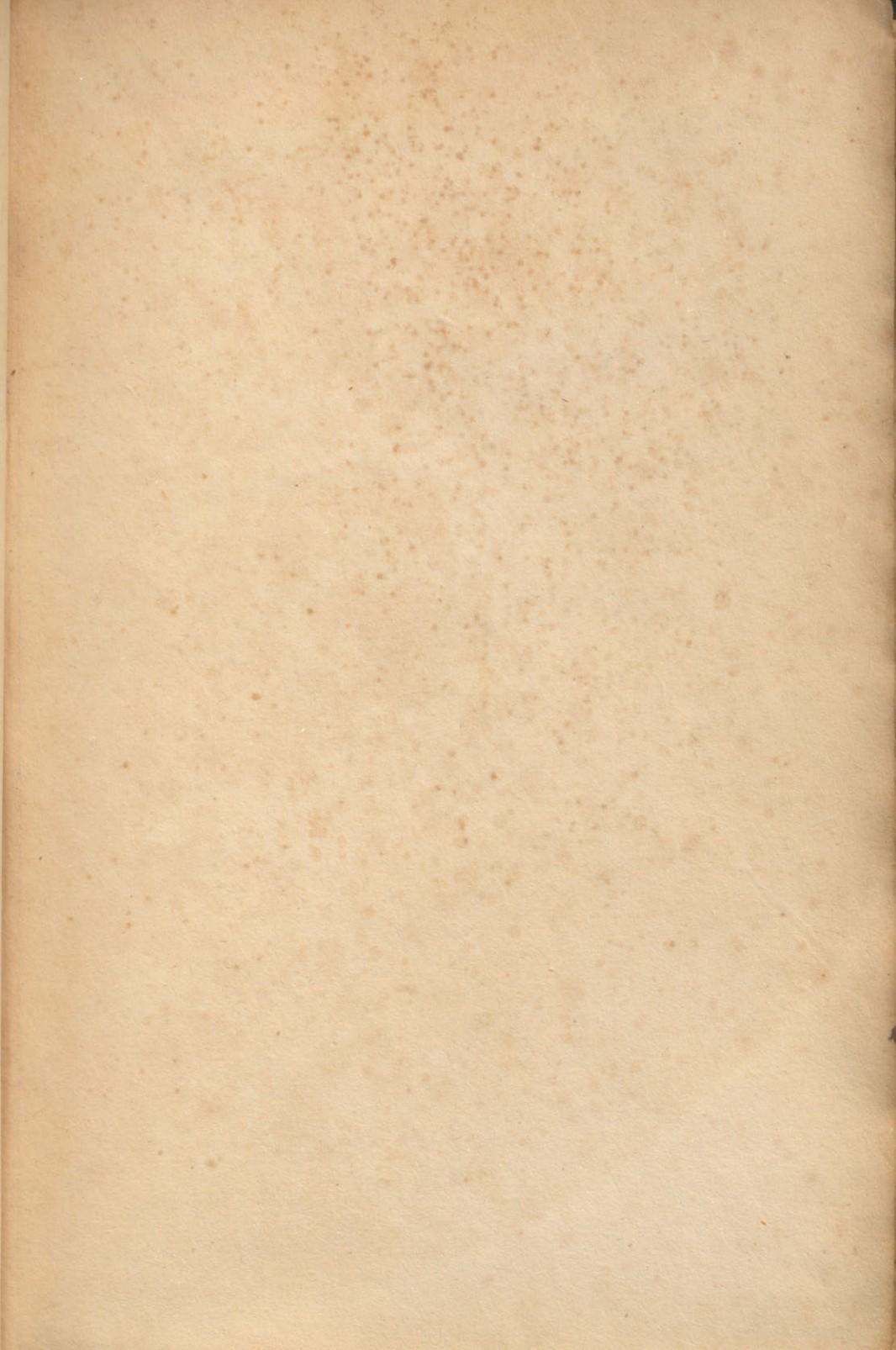
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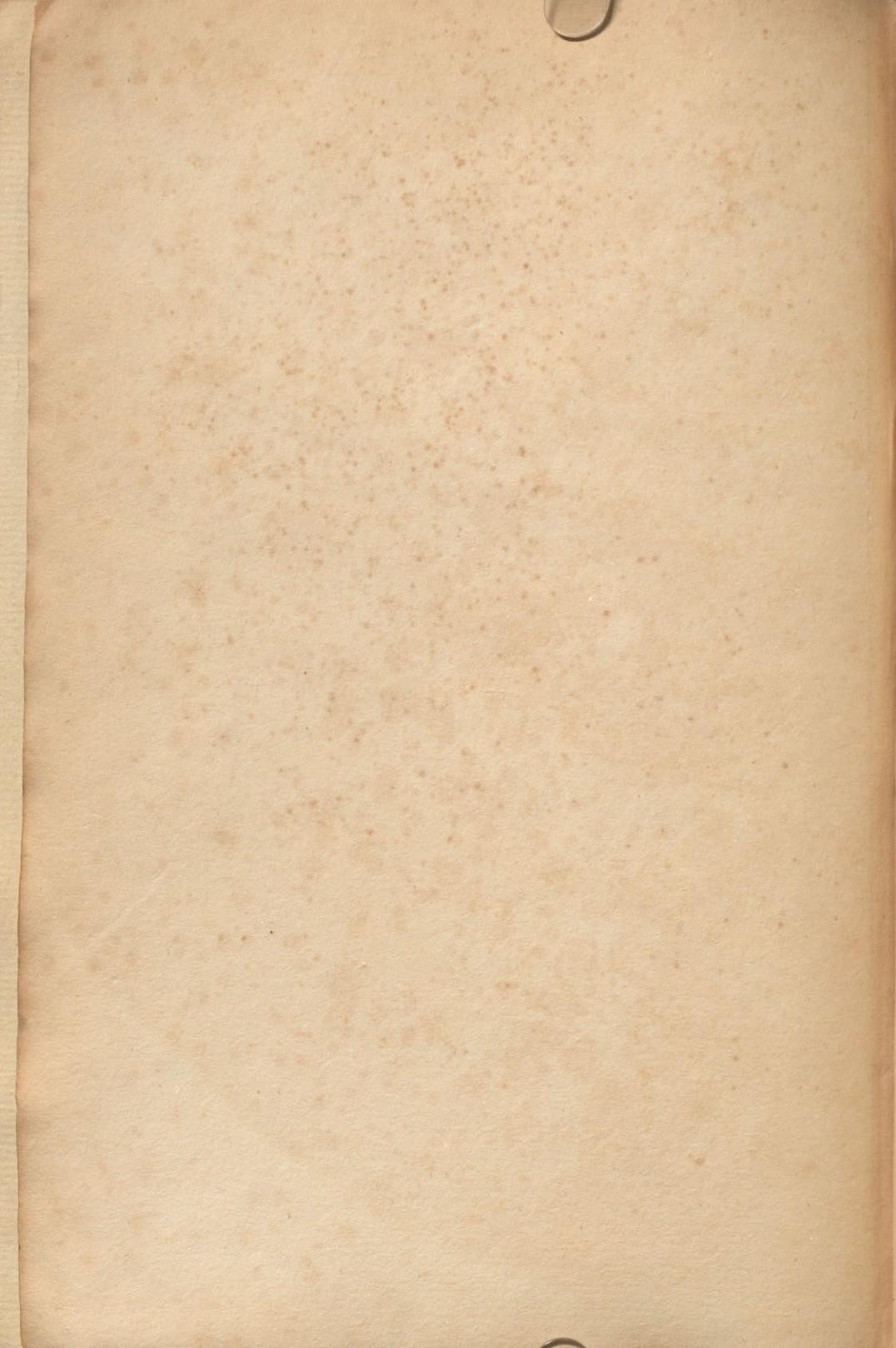


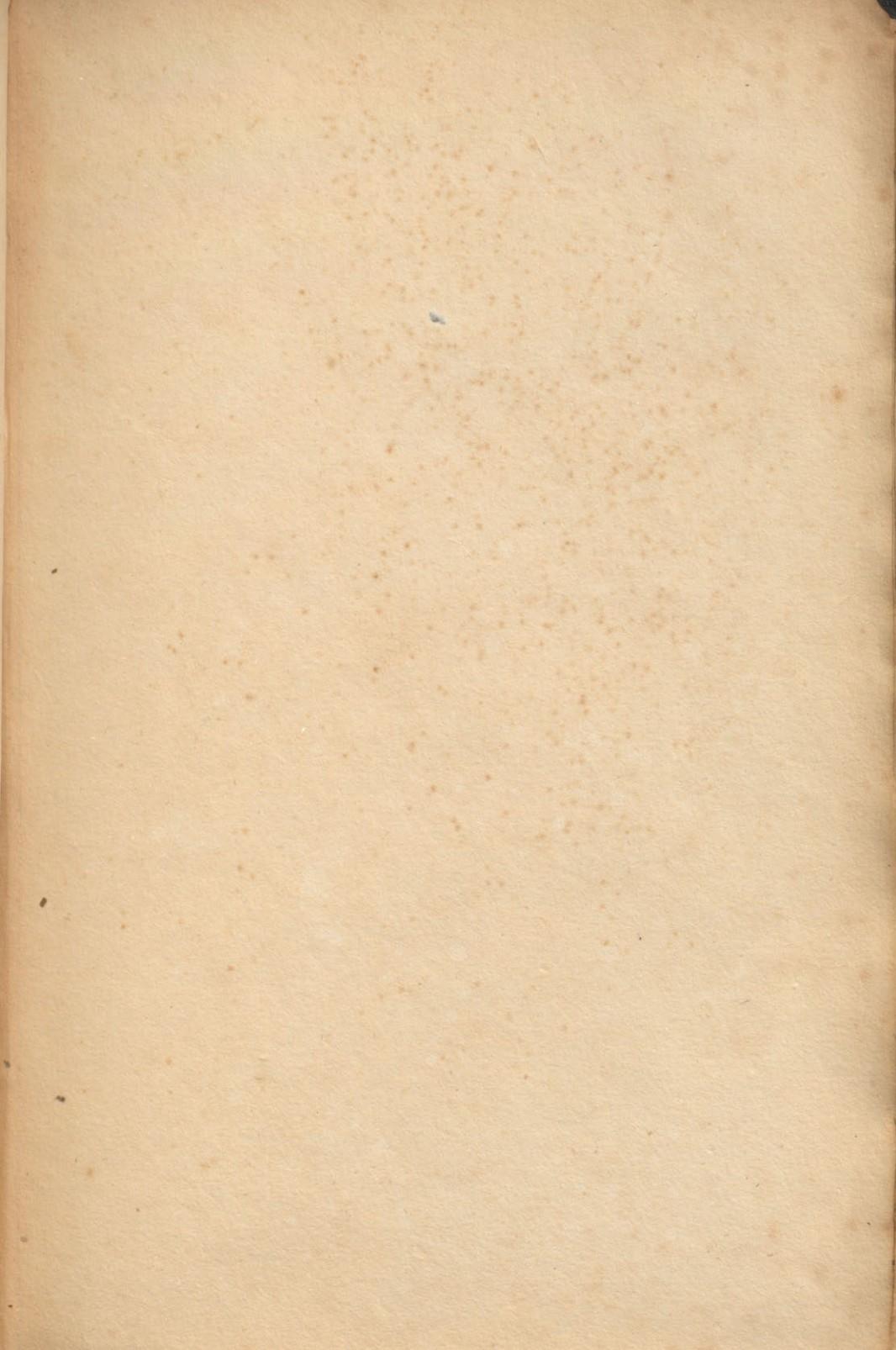


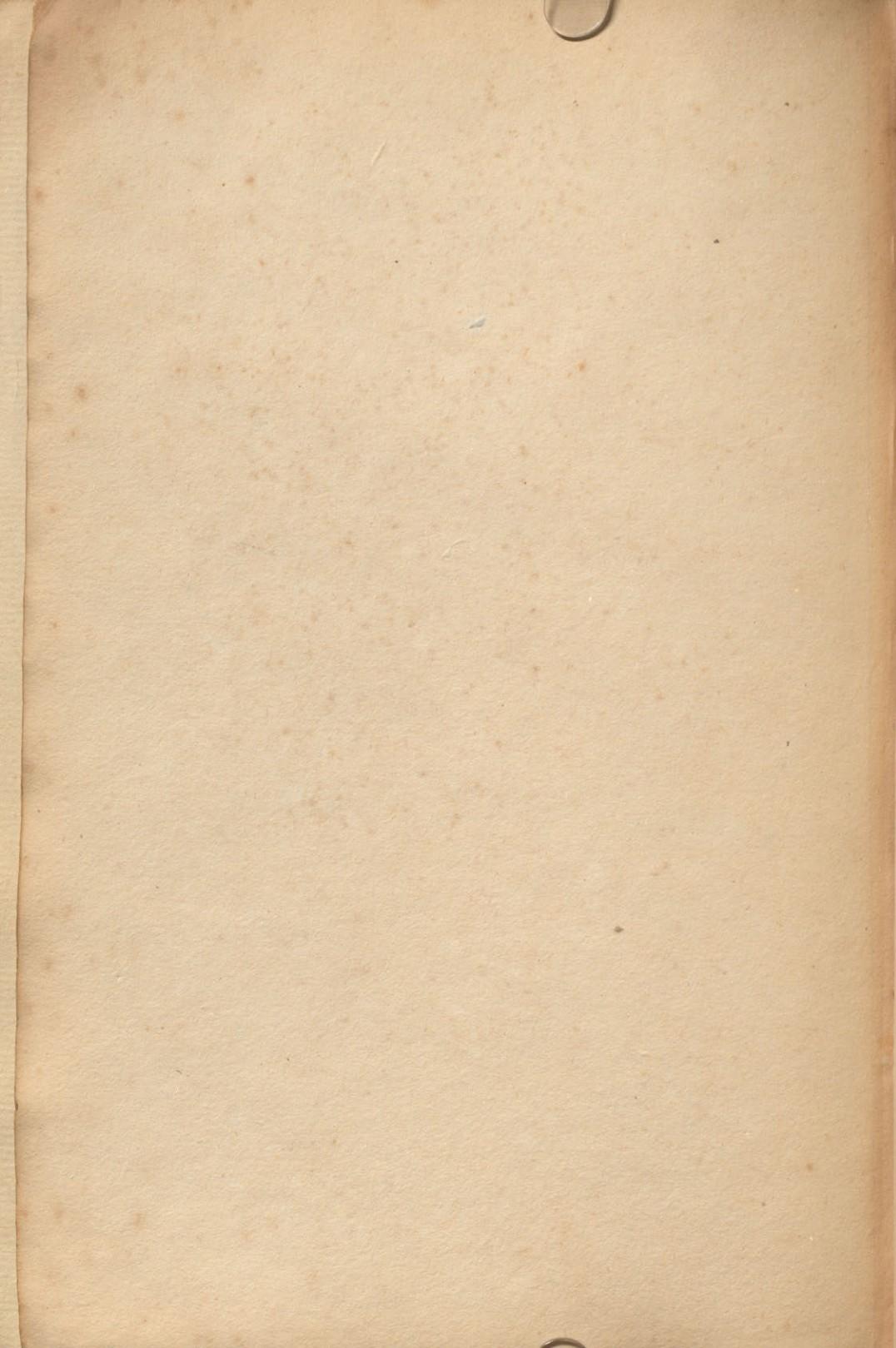


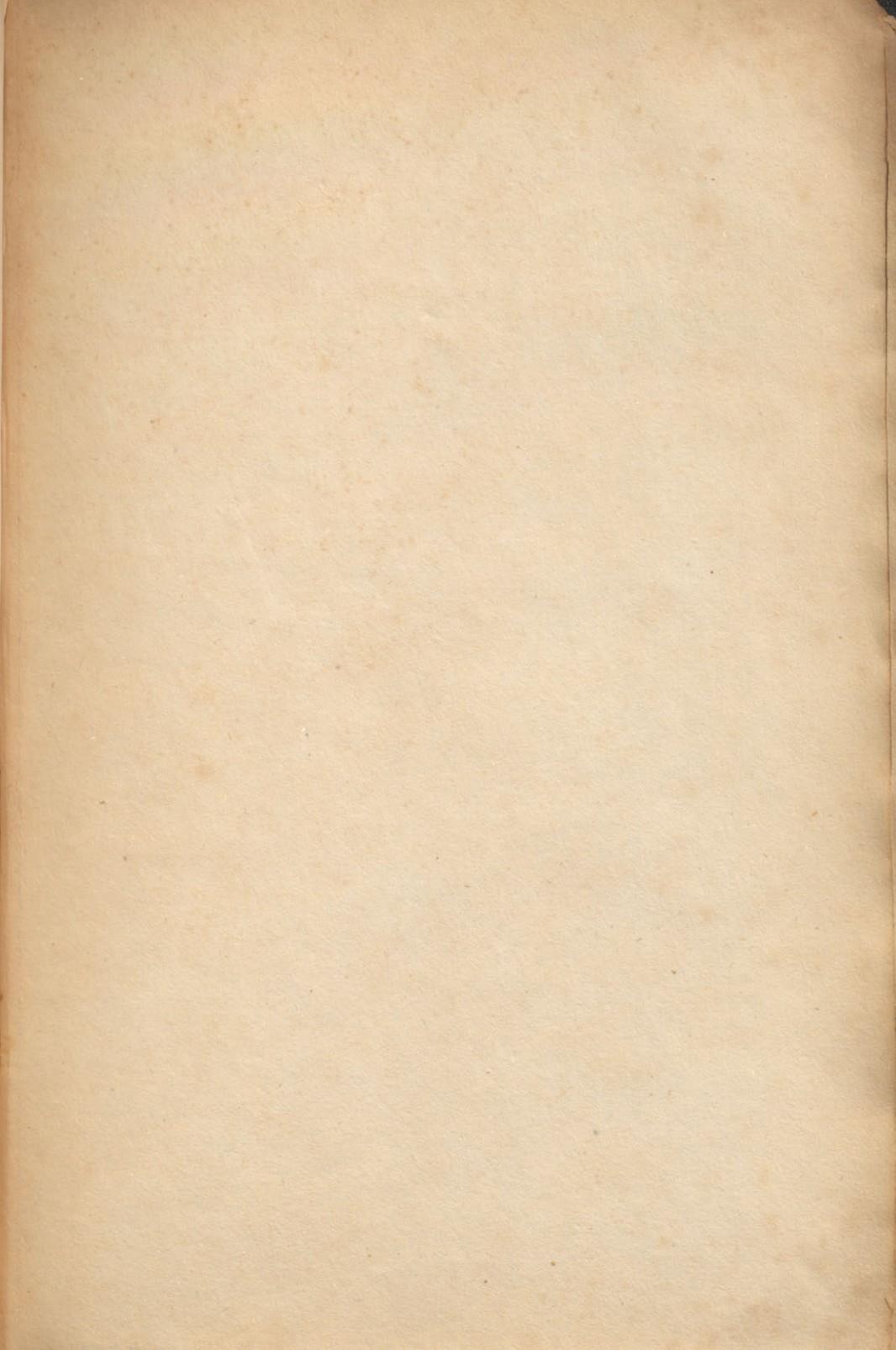


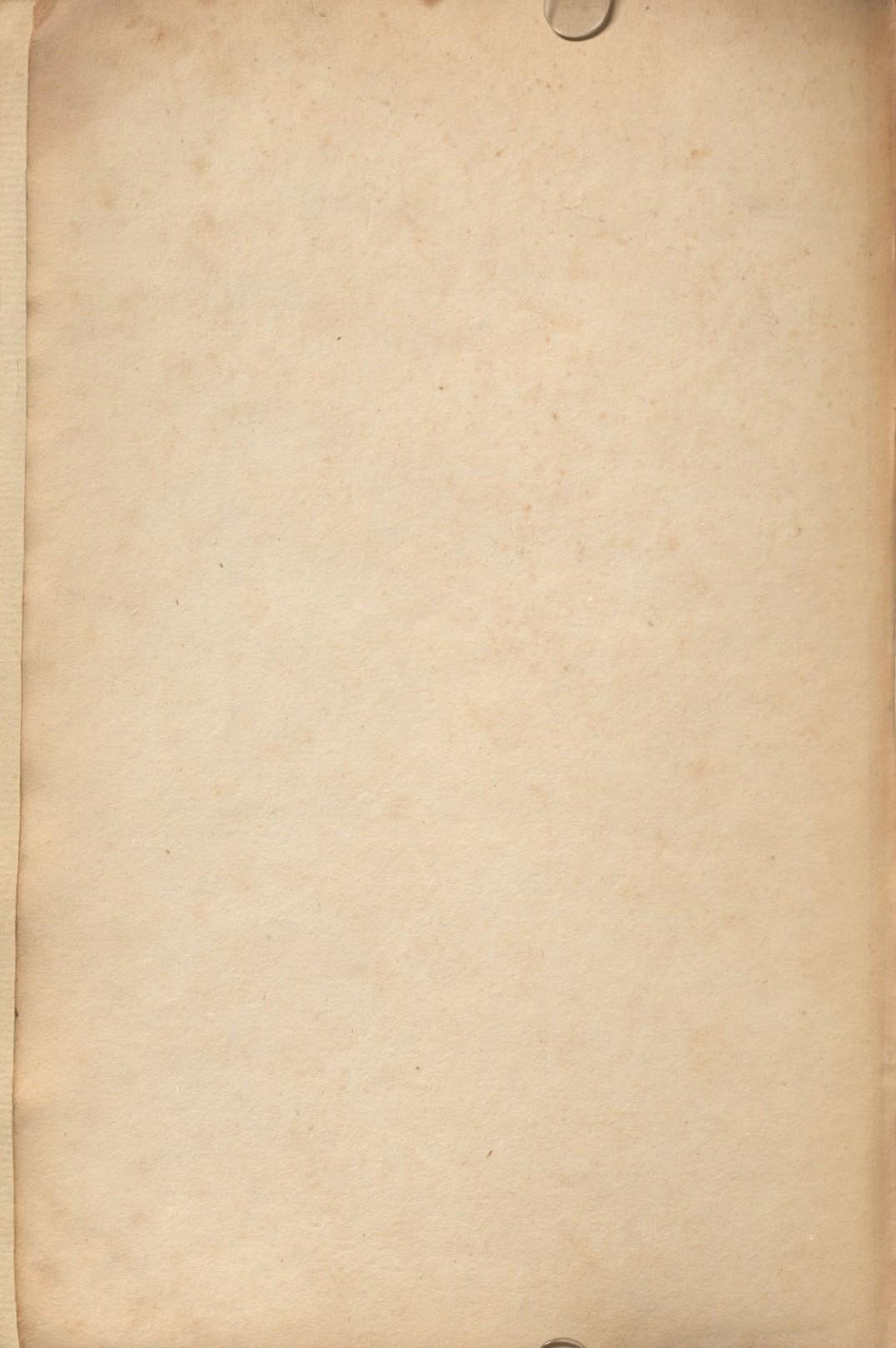


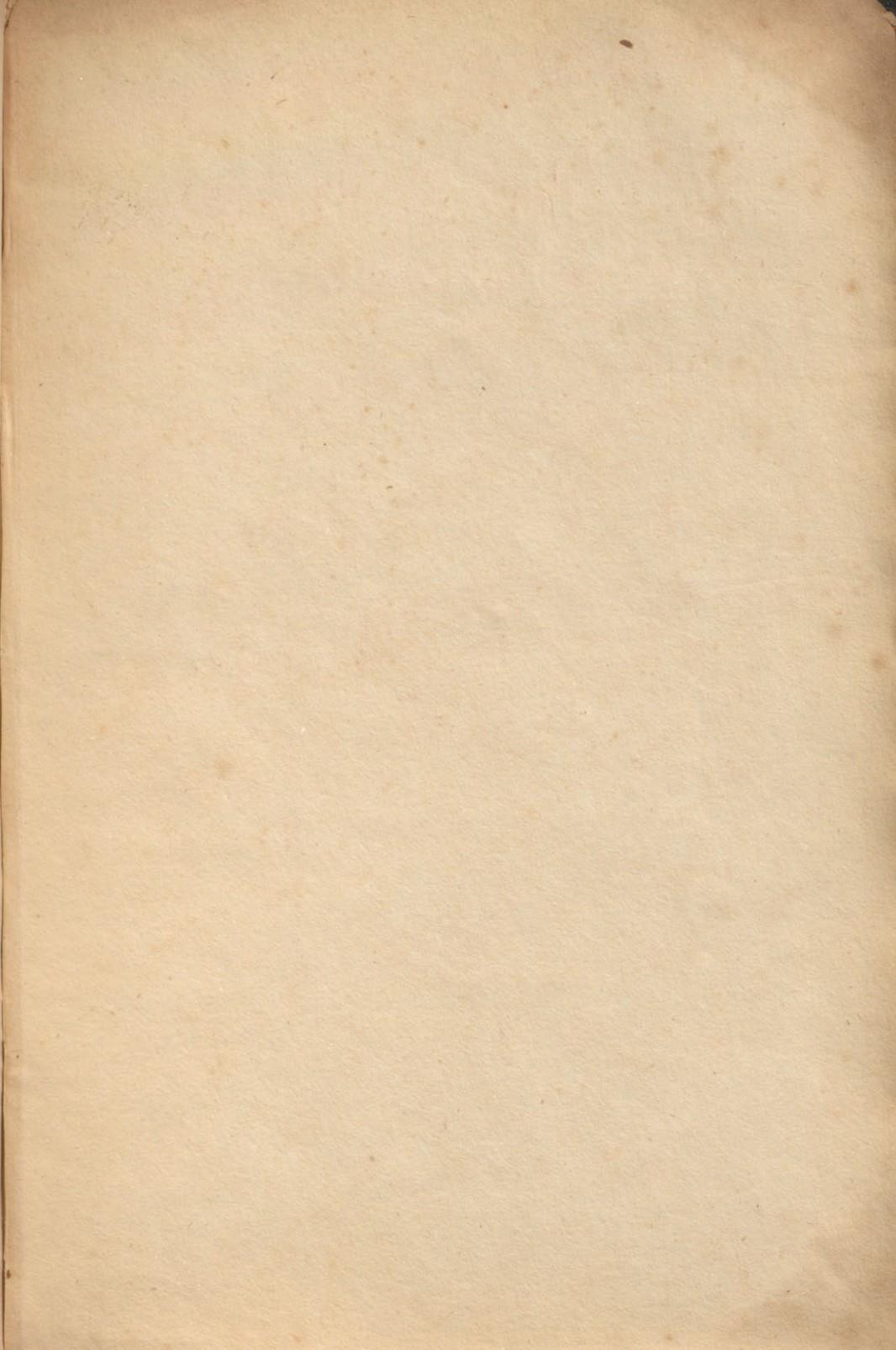


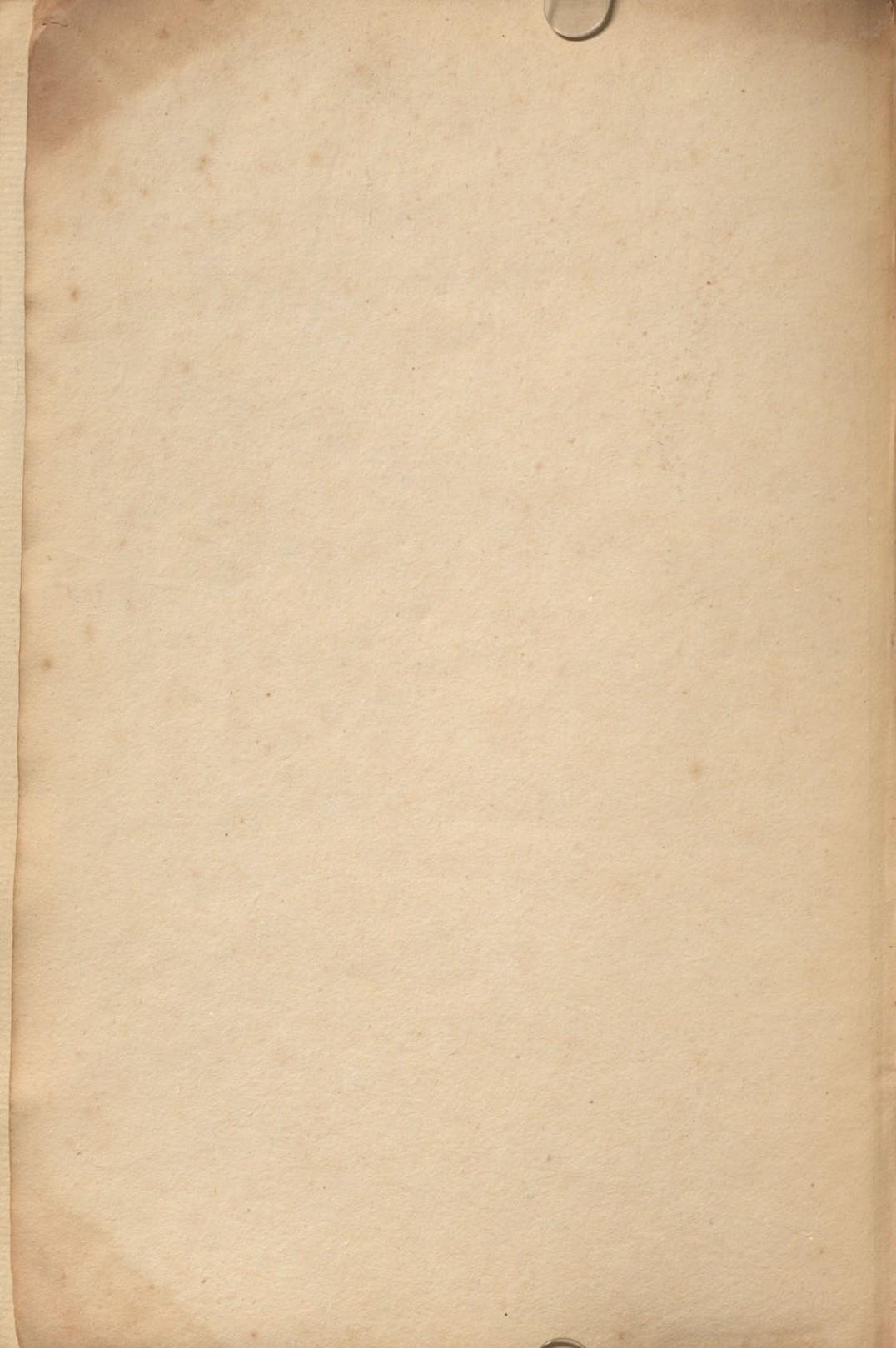


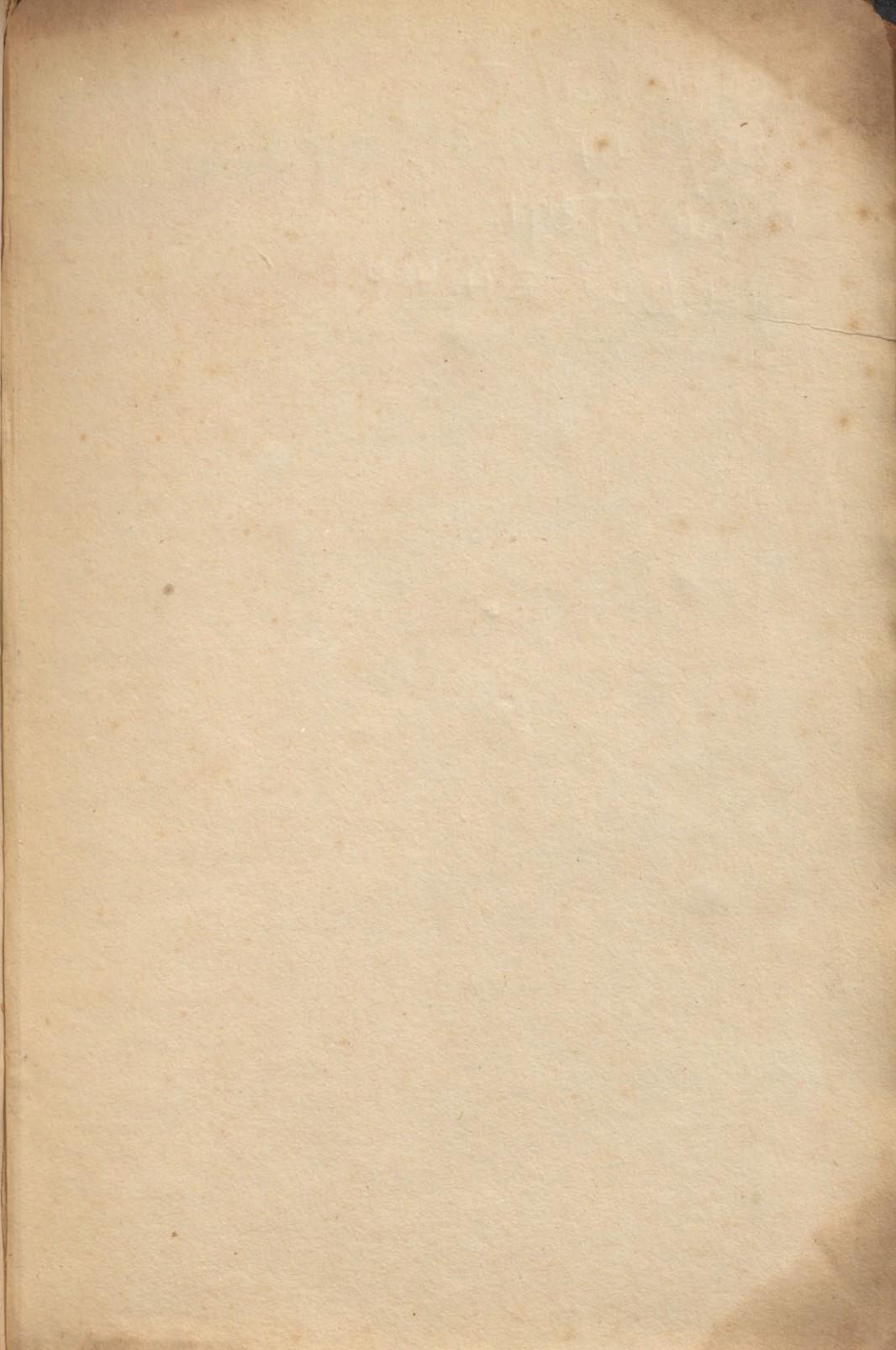












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